

Maronite Patriarch calls on Christians to lay down arms

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

Jerusalem's influential Maronite Christian Patriarch Khreish yesterday issued a dramatic call to lay down arms and other combatants in the southern region to lay down their arms as the morning.

He urged fighters to rally behind President Elias Haddad who is reportedly striving to defuse tension in the south — the last flashpoint in Lebanon's civil war.

In an Easter appeal, Patriarch Khreish called on all Christians to "drop your arms and rally around President Haddad and his efforts to bring peace through dialogue."

He said the Syrians were reportedly mapping out a five-year accord between the Christian militias and an Arab League peace-keeping force, have curbed the PLO forces in most Lebanese areas except for their penetration into the south. The Syrians themselves have been warned against entering southern Lebanon by Israel, which has set a "red line" limit for non-Lebanese Arab troops.

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(Alarm signals, page 5)

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Lebanese officer: Fight to the end

TEL AVIV — The commanding officer of the Lebanese forces in southern Lebanon bitterly criticized the Haddad government, the "entire world" for "siding the residents of the incident enclaves to the butchery of the terrorists."

He identified himself as Hadad, was speaking to soldiers after bringing six wounded children to the Good Fence here Friday. The children had been injured by 120mm mortar shells. Hadad, about 45, balding, a reddish brown mustache and olive-green army fatigues, criticized Christian leaders, as Pierre Jemayyel and the Chamoun, as well as Shia leaders like Kamal el-Asad. He said he had decided to "be silent and speak openly, to tell the world, 'I know I am angering my life, my family, and my military career.'"

He also claimed that the government in Beirut was not allowing Red Cross convoys to reach the south. Hadad said that he was speaking for "all the Lebanese who are ready to fight and die until the last man rather than surrender to the terrorists and to the Syrians."

As the major spoke, the sound of artillery could be heard from his native village of Kila across the border, and pillars of dust and smoke could be seen. He said he himself had been slightly wounded during the battle for Taybeh, when he and his men had fought their way out of the town after being trapped by terrorist forces.

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The officer also criticized the Christian leaders: "I am calling on Pierre Jemayyel and Camille Chamoun, who fought a long war for the independence of Lebanon. After this war they lost everything and now they are letting the Syrians run things. Where are the principles for which they fought? Fifteen thousand Christians died in the war. Was it all for nothing?"

By YOSAM HAMIZRAHI
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"How can they blame us for asking for Israel help?" Hadad asked. "Who will give us food? The Syrians are shelling us with 180mm guns and the terrorists with 120mm guns and rockets. Any man who is a true Lebanese... must pick up his weapons... and fight the terrorists and also the Syrians, because the Syrians are here to wipe out everything that is Lebanese."

The officer expressed his bitterness at a report that Lebanon's President Sarkis had congratulated the terrorists on their victory at Taybeh last week. "The president should be the father of every Lebanese citizen and not only of the militant groups. I'm sorry, and I'm very sad to point out that he neglected us."

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President Carter says: Palestinians must have voice at Geneva

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He who flew to Dobbin's in the Easter weekend with his wife and family, answered her question by saying that establishing a homeland for the Palestinians is one way of resolving the Palestinian question. "It is clear that that's an avenue of success," he said. "It is one that I have espoused even during the campaign months — that a confederation or some relationship between Palestinians and Jordan might be advisable."

"As you know, there are approximately one million Palestinians who are part of the Jordanian society now and they have high positions in the government. I think this is a natural possibility. But whether or not it will be the ultimate decision, I can't say."

Regarding Palestinian participation at Geneva, Israel has made it clear that Palestinian interests can be represented only by the Jordanian delegation and that a separate PLO presence is unacceptable.

White House press secretary Jody Powell said on Friday that the U.S. still saw no constructive role for the PLO in Middle East peace talks as long as it refused to recognize Israel's right to exist.

Commenting on Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's statement that the PLO was becoming more responsible, Powell told a Washington press conference that the U.S. view on the PLO had not changed.

Sadat sees normalization in five years

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WASHINGTON — President Anwar Sadat told U.S. officials that he envisaged a full normalization of relations with Israel within about five years after a Geneva agreement had been signed, and that some interim steps toward normal relations could take place even earlier. "The New York Times" reported yesterday.

Diplomatic correspondent Bernard Gwertzman quoted American officials as saying that this fairly specific timing was divulged as top policy-makers here continued to express overall satisfaction with the results of the Sadat mission, even though some significant differences remain with Egypt over the shape of a final settlement.

Gwertzman said that on the nature of peace, American officials regarded Sadat's position as quite favorable. "The Americans said that Sadat had dropped his previous view that there could only be normalization in the next generation and talked instead of five years 'after Geneva'."

But on substantive areas Sadat adhered to his insistence that in a final settlement Israel must withdraw from all territory in Sinai, and he refused to accept Carter's contention that there could be some minor adjustments in the border. Israel officials insisted that the Egyptian leader's position had not really changed. Normalization of relations would have to be part of the peace agreement, they said, and a five-year delay was unacceptable.

"Pravda" said on Friday that Sadat's official visit to Washington was aimed to help the cause of peace in the Middle East.

Rabin also faces risk of prosecution

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Prime Minister Rabin may himself face trial, alongside his wife Lea, over their illegal account in Washington. He will be interrogated in the next few days, at the behest of the Attorney-General, by Treasury investigators, and, on the basis of his testimony, the Attorney-General will decide whether to bring charges against him too.

The initial public impression on Thursday night and Friday — based on Rabin's television broadcast and from statements by Treasury officials — that only Lea would be prosecuted was not accurate. The Attorney-General's office has still not issued any statement on the affair.

Attorney-General Aharon Barak, on the basis of the evidence already submitted to him, has decided to prosecute Lea — and has ordered an interrogation of the Prime Minister before deciding whether to prosecute him too.

"The decision regarding Yitzhak Rabin is still pending," sources close to Barak said at the weekend.

Barak's decision, it is reliably understood, will hinge on whether the Prime Minister testifies that he was conscious of the existence of the account over the years since 1973, and knew of his wife's frequent withdrawals from it.

If he says he was not conscious and did not know — then, assuming Barak accepts his word, he will be exempted both from judicial prosecution and from any administrative fine. This is because the Attorney-General will regard his offence as "purely technical."

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U.S. still sure of peace effort

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WASHINGTON — President Jimmy Carter says that Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's departure from the Israeli political scene will not affect the current Middle East peace effort.

"I believe that the Israelis will push forward with their own strong desire to have a permanent and lasting peace with their Arab neighbors, to have borders that they can defend, and that the Palestinian question can be resolved," Carter said in Dobbin's, Georgia, on Friday. He was responding to newsmen's questions. "I don't think the identity of one particular political figure, even a Prime Minister, will affect that adversely," he added.

The State Department issued a similar statement on Friday saying that Rabin's withdrawal will not affect American-Israeli relations or the peace process.

"We have complete confidence that Israel will continue to cooperate actively in pursuing peace in the Middle East," said spokesman Hodge Carter III, noting that Israel Ambassador Simcha Dinitz had earlier on Friday informed Secretary of State Cyrus Vance of the same thing. Dinitz and Vance met for about one hour for a discussion of Egyptian President Sadat's visit to Washington and other issues. The Dinitz-Vance meeting had been set before the Rabin withdrawal announcement was made.

"We also do not expect this search to be interrupted by the working of the democratic process in Israel," the spokesman said. "The United States has had close and friendly relations with Prime Minister Rabin's government, and we fully expect these will exist with the next government."

Commenting on the assessment that Defence Minister Shimon Peres would succeed Rabin, American officials were saying that while Peres has an image of being more of a "hawk" than Rabin, one never knows how a man will develop in a position of leadership.

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According to the terms of the agreement, Peres will head the Alignment Knesset list and be its candidate for Premier, Allon will be second on the

list and assured the defence portfolio, if he wishes. It is understood that Abba Eban, election results permitting, will return as Foreign Minister.

Peres issued a statement saying Yigal Allon "would be Number Two in every respect among the Labour Party's candidates for the Knesset."

"When the next Cabinet is formed," the statement, issued early this morning after a third meeting between the two men, continued, "Allon will, as the result of this position, select for himself the portfolio he prefers. If he chooses the defence portfolio, he will get it."



Shimon Peres

Yigal Allon

Peres pledges to work with all factions

Jerusalem Post Staff

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He said it was natural for Foreign Minister Yigal Allon to have second place on the Knesset list, assuming that he would not challenge Peres for the Premiership.

Speaking in interviews on radio and TV, Peres also pledged continuity of the present government's policy which aims at reconvening the Geneva Middle East peace conference during the second half of this year. He dismissed talk about "doves" and "hawks" as a matter of "habit" which had very little to do with a serious approach to the present situation.

Recalling that he abided twice by the will of the majority following the party's vote on its candidate for Prime Minister (in 1974 and six weeks ago), Peres stressed that the decision of the party's majority must be respected, otherwise it will be most difficult to keep a broad party together.

Thursday's meeting of the party's central committee only confirmed the support he enjoyed in the party, Peres added. He did not think that the party's Arab wing, or perhaps of it would quit the Labour Party if he is nominated and he seemed convinced that the party will remain united.

As to Mapam's attempt to veto his candidacy, Peres recalled that the Labour Party platform, to which he was fully committed, had taken into consideration at least some of Mapam's conditions.

Peres thought it would be a grave error on Mapam's part to quit the Alignment at this stage, adding that such a move might endanger Labour's political hegemony, since without Mapam the Labour Party might not emerge as the largest party after the forthcoming elections.

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Peres Rabin make up at 'emotional' meeting

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Defence Minister Shimon Peres yesterday expressed deep regret over the circumstances which led to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's resignation and said their meeting on Friday was very emotional. "We parted in a most friendly spirit," Both agreed that the Government must continue to function without any let-up, with Rabin pledging to assist Peres if he can.

Speaking in interviews on the radio and TV, Peres said their recent race for the Premiership had not left any bitter taste and had even led to a deeper mutual understanding. "I told Rabin that this was not the end of the road neither for him nor for myself, as we both are still in the middle of our careers."

MAPAM MAY QUIT

Mapam, meanwhile, threatened to break its alignment with Labour should Peres be the nomination.

Rabin's withdrawal has put Mapam in a tight spot since it is bound by its convention's decision to break the alignment with Labour should Peres win the nomination. Its final decision is expected tomorrow afternoon.

Mapam's decision will be taken in the light of this evening's decision in the 516-member Labour central committee.

It is not yet clear whether Labour's central committee will discuss merely who will head the list, or whether it will decide who the first 60 candidates should be. The appointments committee has postponed its debates until Peres and Allon reach an agreement.

The Defence Minister and Foreign Minister held three meetings yesterday. In the first, which lasted for half an hour, they discussed the need for party unity, the sides said. Peres said after that meeting, "What could be achieved in the first meeting — has been reached. We will do everything to preserve party unity."

In the second meeting, yesterday evening, Meir Zarmi, the party secretary-general, and the managing director of the Agricultural Bank, David Kaidron, outlined a proposed compromise. In addition to dividing the portfolios between Peres, Allon and Eban, Zarmi's written memorandum suggested that the Knesset list be balanced among all groups. It also sought to assure supporters of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin that they will not lose out as a result of the changes.

According to one report, Zarmi had proposed that Rabin be assured of a Knesset seat.

A source in Peres camp said there have been three outstanding differences:

- Allon wanted a written agreement.
- Allon wanted to be permanent-acting prime minister, that is, to act as premier whenever Peres is unable to fill that role.
- But former Mapam members in the (Continued on page 7, col. 6)

Arabs view resignation as excuse to stall peace

CAIRO — Because the resignation of Premier Yitzhak Rabin over an illegal bank account held in the U.S. is incomprehensible in Arab eyes, it was being interpreted in Arab countries as an excuse to delay Middle East peace efforts.

As a legacy from the days of the caliphs, most Arabs expect their leaders to get rich on the job. The harem, helicopters, palaces and other trappings of power are taken as a matter of course.

"This is a manoeuvre to delay making peace with the Arabs," said an Egyptian official. "Al-Ahram," Egypt's leading newspaper, said the same thing.

There was no official Egyptian comment on the resignation since President Anwar Sadat and top policy-makers, as well as the executives of most newspapers, returned home only last night from a visit to Washington and a stopover in West Germany.

However, Syrian and Jordanian newspapers emphasized that the resignation might impair current

peace efforts in the Middle East.

The Jordanian daily "Al-Dustour" said the resignation would provide Israel with an excuse to stall peace efforts.

"Al-Shaab" said in an editorial, "Rabin's resignation seems to herald a new Israeli policy of procrastination in settling the Middle East crisis."

It reaffirmed the official Jordanian leadership that this was not the end of the road neither for him nor for myself, as we both are still in the middle of our careers."

Morocco sends troops to fight for Zaire

KINSHASA — A first detachment of 1,600 Moroccan troops arrived in Zaire yesterday to help repel an invasion from Angola of the country's copper-rich southeastern area, Zaire's official Asap news agency reported.

The agency also said a senior Egyptian military delegation is in Kinshasa, and has had talks with President Mobutu on arrangements for sending Egyptian troops to Zaire within the next few days.

Asap made its statements as a new warning came from Angola against any "internationalization" of the conflict in Zaire's Shaba (formerly Katanga) province. The province has been invaded by a force that took refuge in then-Portuguese Angola when Katanga secession collapsed in the early '60s.

Angolan President Agostinho Neto said in a message to Moroccan King Hassan that "Morocco will be responsible if any aggression against the P.R.A. (People's Republic of Angola) is verified." He sent a similar but milder message to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

In Rabat, a source close to the Moroccan government said the Zaire army, which reportedly has not yet engaged the rebels, would win "as long as I live."

All businesses were closed in Kinshasa yesterday, and employers were under orders to organize transport for their workers to the various starting points for the march. All who took part were paid regular working-day wages.

Observers saw the march as a counterweight to last Sunday's rally at the national stadium, which was attended by only 15,000. But although the crowds were large this time, there still was no overwhelming display of enthusiasm, they said.

Meanwhile a Belgian foreign office spokesman denied claims by the rebels' spokesman, the Congolese National Liberation Front (FLNC), that Belgium intended sending troops to Zaire and that arms had been distributed to Belgians living in Shaba's important copper-mining centre of Kolwezi.

There have been no reports on the situation in Shaba since Zaire officials said last week that the rebels were some 110 km west of Kolwezi. (Reuters: UPI)

Assad to visit Moscow

MOSCOW — Syrian President Hafez Assad will visit the Soviet Union in the second half of this month, "Pravda" announced yesterday. He was last in Moscow for three days in October 1976.

It was officially announced in Damascus yesterday that Assad had received a message from President Jimmy Carter. The nature of the message, delivered by Richard Murphy, the U.S. ambassador to Syria, was not disclosed. Observers, however, believe it dealt with a meeting due to be held between the Syrian and U.S. presidents in Europe next month.

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Jerusalem Post Staff

Defence Minister Shimon Peres yesterday expressed deep regret over the circumstances which led to Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's resignation and said their meeting on Friday was very emotional. "We parted in a most friendly spirit," Both agreed that the Government must continue to function without any let-up, with Rabin pledging to assist Peres if he can.

Speaking in interviews on the radio and TV, Peres said their recent race for the Premiership had not left any bitter taste and had even led to a deeper mutual understanding. "I told Rabin that this was not the end of the road neither for him nor for myself, as we both are still in the middle of our careers."

Arabs view resignation as excuse to stall peace

CAIRO — Because the resignation of Premier Yitzhak Rabin over an illegal bank account held in the U.S. is incomprehensible in Arab eyes, it was being interpreted in Arab countries as an excuse to delay Middle East peace efforts.

As a legacy from the days of the caliphs, most Arabs expect their leaders to get rich on the job. The harem, helicopters, palaces and other trappings of power are taken as a matter of course.

"This is a manoeuvre to delay making peace with the Arabs," said an Egyptian official. "Al-Ahram," Egypt's leading newspaper, said the same thing.

There was no official Egyptian comment on the resignation since President Anwar Sadat and top policy-makers, as well as the executives of most newspapers, returned home only last night from a visit to Washington and a stopover in West Germany.

However, Syrian and Jordanian newspapers emphasized that the resignation might impair current

Morocco sends troops to fight for Zaire

KINSHASA — A first detachment of 1,600 Moroccan troops arrived in Zaire yesterday to help repel an invasion from Angola of the country's copper-rich southeastern area, Zaire's official Asap news agency reported.

The agency also said a senior Egyptian military delegation is in Kinshasa, and has had talks with President Mobutu on arrangements for sending Egyptian troops to Zaire within the next few days.

Asap made its statements as a new warning came from Angola against any "internationalization" of the conflict in Zaire's Shaba (formerly Katanga) province. The province has been invaded by a force that took refuge in then-Portuguese Angola when Katanga secession collapsed in the early '60s.

Angolan President Agostinho Neto said in a message to Moroccan King Hassan that "Morocco will be responsible if any aggression against the P.R.A. (People's Republic of Angola) is verified." He sent a similar but milder message to Egyptian President Anwar Sadat.

In Rabat, a source close to the Moroccan government said the Zaire army, which reportedly has not yet engaged the rebels, would win "as long as I live."

All businesses were closed in Kinshasa yesterday, and employers were under orders to organize transport for their workers to the various starting points for the march. All who took part were paid regular working-day wages.

Observers saw the march as a counterweight to last Sunday's rally at the national stadium, which was attended by only 15,000. But although the crowds were large this time, there still was no overwhelming display of enthusiasm, they said.

Meanwhile a Belgian foreign office spokesman denied claims by the rebels' spokesman, the Congolese National Liberation Front (FLNC), that Belgium intended sending troops to Zaire and that arms had been distributed to Belgians living in Shaba's important copper-mining centre of Kolwezi.

There have been no reports on the situation in Shaba since Zaire officials said last week that the rebels were some 110 km west of Kolwezi. (Reuters: UPI)

Assad to visit Moscow

MOSCOW — Syrian President Hafez Assad will visit the Soviet Union in the second half of this month, "Pravda" announced yesterday. He was last in Moscow for three days in October 1976.

It was officially announced in Damascus yesterday that Assad had received a message from President Jimmy Carter. The nature of the message, delivered by Richard Murphy, the U.S. ambassador to Syria, was not disclosed. Observers, however, believe it dealt with a meeting due to be held between the Syrian and U.S. presidents in Europe next month.

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Rafat	29	10-20	23
Haifa Port			
Tiberias	37	6-25	29
Nazareth	27	13-23	25
Afula	15	7-27	29
Shomron	24	14-22	26
Tel Aviv	60	12-24	28
B.C. Airport	47	6-25	27
Jericho	15	10-20	23
Gaza	74	13-21	24
Beerseba	18	6-26	30
Eilat	6	12-31	33
Tiran Straits	6	20-31	33

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

Prof. Robert A. Moss, of Rutgers University, will give a guest lecture on "Molecular Catalysis in Organic Chemistry" tomorrow, Monday, April 11, 1977, in Hall Gimmel, the School of Pharmacy, Elin Keren. (Continued)

Haifa Port tied up by strike

Jerusalem Post Reporter
HAIFA. — The Marine Officers Union strike brought Haifa Port to a near-standstill at noon on Friday. Also paralysed was the port's most vital facilities — the container terminal and the feed grain unloading installation at the Dagon silo.

Three Israeli ships held up by the union occupied the berths of the facilities, thus preventing four other container ships and two grain carriers from entering the port to discharge.

A fourth ship, the Ashdod, was immobilised in Eilat harbour, also clogging the container facility there. The port managements are unlikely to permit other Israeli ships to enter, to forestall their being immobilised and occupying more berths.

Immense losses to the shipowners amount to over \$100,000 daily as the dispute (over the officers' demand for higher pay than the ratings on their ships) intensifies.

The union and the shipowners appear to be heading for total confrontation. Both sides have declared they are ready to face out the situation.

Shlomo Erel, director of the shipping companies association who is handling the negotiations with the union, told The Jerusalem Post that he was not asking for government emergency bank to work orders. The Post learned that he had met with Transport Minister Gad Ya'acobi on Friday to discuss the situation.

Union Secretary Adam Chislik told The Post that if emergency orders are issued, the union would find ways of following them. He indicated that two of the struck ships fly the Liberian flag, and the orders would not therefore apply to them.

Chislik and co-secretary Captain Y. Groman said that the companies had cancelled a meeting at which they were to discuss the "real issue," the renewal of their labour contract. "This appears to signify the companies' intention for an all-out confrontation with us. We are ready for it," Chislik said.

Attorney General vs Treasury Is the Rabins' punishment too severe?

By DAVID LANDAU
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Is being the Prime Minister's wife a mitigating circumstance which should give a foreign currency offender the chance to pay an administrative fine rather than stand trial? This was the core of the dispute between the Treasury and the Attorney-General at the end of last week. The Treasury thought that it was a mitigating circumstance that should have swung the balance; Attorney-General Aharon Barak thought that it was not.

Barak believed that being the Premier's wife could be a mitigating circumstance in a borderline case. But Mrs. Rabins' prima facie guilt was so clear-cut that he could not, in good conscience, take account of her own peculiarly delicate position and the inevitably far-reaching effects of her trial on her husband and herself.

And, since the final decision in such cases is in the hands of the Attorney-General, it was decided to bring Mrs. Rabins to trial, and as a result Yitzhak Rabins resigned.

At one point there was a stand-off between Barak and top Treasury officials, when the Attorney-General indicated that if the Treasury insisted on an administrative fine he personally would not accept the decision, and might go as far as to challenge it in the High Court. But whatever he himself did, Barak wanted the Treasury men, such a decision would inevitably be challenged — whether in the courts of law or in the court of public opinion — and it would surely be found wanting.

Barak declared too, according to sources close to him, that if Mrs. Rabins was to get off without trial he would have to stop in mid-process several prosecutions and appeals on similar cases currently before the courts.

What he did not say specifically — but what seems to have been clearly implied in his position — was that he

might well resign himself unless the Treasury bowed to his opinion.

Legal sources close to Barak brushed aside at the weekend any claims (see adjoining story) that the last word rested with the Minister of Finance, not with the Attorney-General, but that Rabins' had been reluctant to exercise his authority. This was not the case at all, they said, either in strict law or in constitutional practice — and the Treasury had recognised all along that Barak was the ultimate authority.

Paragraph 10(d) of the Emergency (Finance) Regulations provides in fact, these legal sources argued, that the overriding authority is the Attorney-General's — because it gives him the right to start a legal

action in every instance, in which case the Finance Minister's discretion to impose an administrative fine immediately disappears.

But of course this is never necessary, the legal sources explained, because the Treasury always recognizes its duty to handle any such investigation of a possible criminal offence in coordination with the Attorney-General — as, indeed, it did in this case.

Explaining the reasons for the Attorney-General's decision to prosecute, the sources close to him cited the policy-guidelines for treatment of such offences, drawn up by the then-Attorney-General jointly with the Treasury in 1971. These guidelines specifically enjoin "a severe and deterrent approach."

Treasury: Fine was enough

By GIDION ESHET
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Treasury officials continue to believe that Prime Minister Rabins and his wife have been subjected to harsher treatment for the foreign currency offence which brought on Mr. Rabins' resignation than is accorded to ordinary citizens in similar cases.

Although the Treasury decided on Friday to transfer the case to the Attorney-General, the officials believe it should have ended with a fine and without the Attorney-General's intervention.

They argue that precisely because the Prime Minister and his wife cannot be equated to ordinary citizens given the publicity attendant upon the case and the embarrassment to the Premier — including resignation — the Attorney-General's claim that the case should be treated no differently from others is fallacious. The officials argue that to balance the inordinate penalties to which the Rabins could be subjected they should have simply been fined, without a legal suit.

The officials note that in similar

cases, ordinary citizens, who cooperate with the Treasury, are given a fine and the case is closed, without further court action. This is the case even when large sums are involved but extenuating circumstances, like the impact of court action on the family, are considered. In this case the effect of court action on Mr. Rabins' career could have been rightly considered such a circumstance, these officials argue.

The officials are also annoyed at the Finance Minister, who they believe could have spared Rabins his ordeal by firmer action. According to the law, "Where the Minister of Finance... is satisfied that a person has contravened any of the provisions of these regulations, he may... take from him a monetary composition. Where a criminal action has been brought a composition shall not be accepted..."

In the Rabins case, a criminal action was not brought, and the Finance Minister, the officials say, had a legal right to agree to a composition (fine). Moreover, he was himself persuaded that this was the correct course, but feared to take it, the officials say.

Silence in the bank where it all started

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — No one was talking over the weekend in the National Bank of Washington, where the words were uttered which brought Yitzhak Rabins down.

First, there was the young bank clerk, a pretty black girl with an innocent smile, who had unwittingly blurted out to three Israeli Embassy employees on Thursday, March 10, that Lea Rabins had entered the bank the day before to check her savings account. "I can't say anything to you," she told me, starting to move around the floor of the bank. "I can't say anything."

It seems that the big shots at the National Bank of Washington were rightfully embarrassed over the incident and they had instructed all bank employees — especially those working at the Dupont Circle branch — not to talk to reporters.

Then there was the Israeli Embassy employee, one of three Israeli depositors who had heard the bank clerk speak about the Rabins bank account on that day. A young army officer working in the military attaché's office, he had studied economics in Israel and was stunned to hear of the account. He told his friends of his surprise, and that he was certain it was illegal.

This weekend he was under orders not to talk to the press. And Aluf Avraham "Bren" Adan, the military attaché, asked that his name not be published.

Information spread quickly about the account in the Embassy. And

because the Israeli community in Washington is relatively small, the information was passed on by a phone tip to Mrs. Lotche Margalit the next day. Her husband was in New York covering the end of Premier Rabins' visit to the U.S.

Margalit, 39, who once worked for Avner's "Ha'olam Hareh" newspaper, learned some of the journalistic tricks over the years. He has been with "Ha'arets" for 12 years now — the last three in Washington. He is due to return to Jerusalem this summer.

Margalit used a ruse to deposit \$50 in the Rabins account on the next Monday, March 14, to confirm the existence of the account.

A Mrs. Doyle, a gray-haired bank executive, pleasantly and efficiently accepted the Margalit deposit, insisting only that she could not give him a receipt because he did not have the account number. Margalit told her that his cancelled \$50 check would later serve as his receipt.

Questioned about her role in the affair over the weekend, Mrs. Doyle very nicely said, "I'm not allowed to discuss it."

"I hate to be rude," she added. "Why don't you wait for Mr. Freer (the bank manager, who was out to lunch) over there?"

"You must know about Rabins' resignation," I said.

"I read the papers," she replied, refusing to say anything else.

"No comment," said the acting bank manager, when asked how the bank was tricked into divulging confidential bank information about the Rabins account. He said that no one at the bank was going to tell me anything and that I was wasting my time asking questions.

As for Margalit himself: mixed feelings, and no reluctance to talk. "At the beginning," he said, "I thought I would be very glad. But then after it happened, I feel also somewhat of a personal sadness. But I think I did the right thing. And I think that Rabins had to resign."

Over the weekend, Margalit has become somewhat of a celebrity here and was being interviewed by the television networks, the major newspapers and radio stations.



"Haaretz" reporter Dan Margalit, who revealed the existence of the Rabins' illegal U.S. bank accounts, photographed on Friday in Washington. (UPI telephone)

RABIN MAY

(Continued from page one)

Barak's view, would make him not a passive co-owner of the account but an active co-owner of the offence. In his public statement on Thursday night, Rabins said it was "irrelevant" that only his wife had made withdrawals from the account, because there were "no secrets" between them.

At the same time, though, he declared his acceptance of "moral and formal" responsibility, together with Lea, for the account, but did not say, in so many words, that he was actually privy to her activities.

It will be precisely this point which the Treasury investigators will want to have elaborated by the Premier. Legal sources said Rabins could be interrogated at his own volition, without his Parliamentary immunity being waived. The interrogation would take place soon, they expected.

Mrs. Rabins' file, meanwhile, is ready now to be passed on to the prosecutor's staff, and this will be done, according to Government legal sources, "within the next few days, after a few technical matters are cleared up."

Punishments meted out by the courts for offences of this nature are almost invariably in the form of fines, legal circles noted.

Victorious Maccabi returns at secret field

By STEVE KAPLAN
Jerusalem Post Sports Reporter

Newly-crowned European champions Tel Aviv Maccabi were due late last night at some undisclosed time and place in order to avoid the crowds and confusion which marked their return after defeating the Soviet basketball team six weeks ago.

Since their victory over Mobilitgr of Italy 78-77 on Thursday night, the Maccabi players were almost virtual prisoners in their hotel in Belgrade. They were restricted to their floor because every time they ventured out of the hotel they were besieged by the ecstatic fans who were celebrating non-stop since Thursday's historic victory.

Ben-Gurion Airport officials decided to avoid the confusion and hysteria which accompanied Maccabi's previous victorious return. Then the airport was jammed with 10,000 fans who created large-scale traffic jams and left the airport a shambles. This time it was decided to land the jumbo jet bringing the players and fans at an undisclosed military base.

The team was scheduled to return to Tel Aviv last night and to be taken to the Ramat Aviv for a reunion and dinner with families.

On Friday morning a first grade delicious and intoxicating returned from Belgrade. Some of them had to be guided to the customs controls stations.

The more sober among them an airport reporter that a group of Arab in Belgrade threw stones bus carrying Israeli fans, stopped the bus and chased their attackers.

Meanwhile festivities and rations have been organized to celebrate Maccabi's victory. Afternoon at 4 o'clock the Tel Muncipality has scheduled a reception for the players a Yarkon park. And tonight the will be the dinner guests of Free State. The Jerusalem Municipality also wants to hold a reception of players this week, and Jerusalem Hilton has issued the invitation to spend a free week with their families at the hotel (Continued — Page 7)

Labour

(Continued from page one)

Peres camp argue this will harm Eban's prospects of being acting Prime Minister.

Allon also wants Eban to be the third man on the Labour list, but some Peres supporters do not want to commit themselves, arguing they may prefer placing a member of the oriental communities there.

Allon's leverage in negotiations with Peres is the demand by some party leftwingers that his Abud Ha'avoda faction break away from Labour to form a new social-democratic party.

"There are such trends in Hakhibut, Hamehuda, Abud Ha'avoda and other movements," Allon said yesterday. A source in his camp said some people in the Mafal-affiliated Hakhibut faction were planning to work committees and intellectuals also advocate forming an independent list headed by Allon.

At a meeting of Hakhibut Hamehuda leaders on Friday, former Histadrut secretary-general Yitzhak Ben-Aharon and four other

speakers advocated running independently, several so reported. (Ben-Aharon told Jerusalem Post that no one authorized to issue these reports he would not make his position clear.)

Ben-Aharon, meanwhile, as party should call upon Rabins' and his decision. "A party platform only... it is also friendship... We should have not on a sweater, but on me who slipped in good faith. We lend them a hand if they deserve it."

"If a person is in agony as his movement he does not suffer the consequences of offence, the movement should be less noble than he and tell him not want his sacrifice," he said.

Entertainer Uri Zohar, who formed the "Citizens for Movement" put up small tal Behov Disengulf on Friday people to sign a petition: "Come back, we need you." He signed it within a few hours.

Many Labour leaders, in nearly all Cabinet ministers, Mappam not to break up the ment. A Mappam source said many of them want to appear Mappam forums that secret general Meir Tahmi asked Ze decide who will appear. The said that Peres, Allon and El expected to address the Rikuz Mappam leaders have claim are bound by their convention sion, which said Mappam shor independently if Labour nor for the premiership a peres does not identify with ready coe territory in Judea and Sa This meant Eban.

Health Minister Victor She reaftered over the weekend Mappam will quit the Alignment minute that Peres is presumed head of the list. The party's "Secretariat National" committee "Post that was the prevailing view" "I won't sign a manifesto that we'll quit."

Peres met Mappam's secret general Tahmi, on Friday, to attempt to dissuade it from quitting the government.

Feder yesterday acknowledged the party is in a dilemma, but Tahmi said the two parties could join forces in the elections.

Meanwhile the Knesset Committee today will discuss Mappam's request to be recognized as a separate faction. Today a deadline for making such a decision is set.

Should Mappam decide to run independently, new elections Knesset list are expected. A placed party source told The party will probably want the list with better-known names and possibly new faces may also want to place Shmueli's seat.

Asked whether he expected to be a minister in his Cabinet, said: "In my eyes, Rabins is for anything. But I'll express concrete opinion after nomination."

Rabins himself spent a weekend. He went to a kibbutz vention in Elin Gev last night, due to participate in tod Mimousa celebrations in Jerusa

U.S. Jews

(Continued from page one)

were pleased over the possibility that former Foreign Minister Abba Eban might once again be brought into the government because he has always been Israel's most effective, popular spokesman here — with the possible exception of former Prime Minister Golda Meir.

Compassion for Rabins was expressed both by Rabbi Alexander Schindler and Rabbi Arthur Herzberg in statements issued on behalf of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations and the American Jewish Committee respectively.

Schindler said very high sources in the Administration failed to understand why a man should not be able to use his own money, which he had come by honestly.

A Chicago member of the young UJA leadership cabinet, Gary Ratner, felt a Peres-led government would be more unified and better able to resist American pressures in the Mideast negotiations ahead.

In contrast, noted sociologist Seymour Martin Lipset, at Stanford University, California, was concerned at the possible victory of a hawkish Likud position at the polls. American Jews are not dovish, he said, "but they want peace — particularly when you have a democratic administration which most Jews support."

Economist Paul Samuelson of MIT, a Nobel laureate, asked about the economic wisdom of the law which led to Rabins' resignation, said he would be surprised if there were not a lot of other people who had similar small accounts.

But, he added, "I'm not sure that having regulations like this, that on a small scale are infringed, is a bad way of running things," he said.

Rabin explains to the President

Jerusalem Post Staff

Prime Minister Rabins was called in to President Katzir on Friday morning to explain his dramatic resignation of the night before.

An official statement said the two men conferred (for 45 minutes) on the reasons that had led Mr. Rabins to withdraw his candidacy for the Premiership "and on the continuation of Mr. Rabins' functions as Prime Minister until a new government is set up after the elections."

This was apparently a reference to the constitutional difficulties in the way of Rabins' declared desire to step aside as soon as possible — even though the present government is an interim administration from which one cannot resign.

It was still not clear last night how this conundrum will be solved. Government circles apparently prefer to await the Labour party's decision today before tackling the immediate problem of the premiership.

Lawyer challenges Barak decision

Prof. Barak's decision was challenged on Friday by a Carmiel lawyer and Labour Party member. Avraham Gal, who lodged an appeal against it with the High Court of Justice. The case is due to be heard this morning.

Rabins' announcement that he intended resigning "Who knows how many weeks will elapse in coalition bargaining after May 17 until we have a new Prime Minister," Burg said.

At a big picnic organized by Sheil in the Ben Shimon forest, one of the top men, Uri Avneri (the editor of "Ha'olam Hareh" the sensational illustrated weekly) said proudly: "We are the Saner Israel Movement. If you're looking for the real Labor movement you'll find it here. If you're looking for the real movement for change, you'll find it here too."

Shmuel Flatto Sharo who has been working very hard to keep himself in the picture, last Thursday tried to get himself in the best picture of all — the live television coverage of the Maccabi game in Belgrade. Without a single passport to his name any more, he did it in a different way. His backers took four streamers to Yugoslavia, spelling out his greetings to the women, and displayed them on all four sides of the stadium, in the hope of getting round-the-camera coverage and became the first local would-be-politician to conduct instant propaganda at home and abroad simultaneously.

See-How-They-Run gives the prize today to Prof. Amnon Rubinstein of DMC. "Labour people accuse us of being a movement of professors," he said, "but in fact they are simply being proud of their own ignorance."

Tourism Minister Moshe Kol (ILP) said: "We are sorry that Mr. and Mrs. Rabins held their bank account illegally. We are also sorry that they did not tell the whole truth, when the matter was brought to light. This made the situation worse."

Dr. Yosef Burg, the NRP leader, has asked the Attorney-General to rule on whether the Knesset should approve the appointment of a new Premier in the wake of Yitzhak

See how they run

By Joshua Brilliant and Asher Wallfish

LABOUR'S ILL WIND may well blow good for the Likud, the Democratic Movement for Change and Sheil (the New Left bloc). The leaders of these three parties predicted over the weekend that the Rabins bank account affair could give them an unexpected windfall on election day.

At the same time, many opposition personalities said: "We're sorry that Premier Yitzhak Rabins is ending his political career this way."

A reporter asked Ezer Weisman, the Likud campaign manager, whom he would prefer now as Alignment premier-designate. "I won't answer that question because the Alignment won't form the next Cabinet. We'll form the next Cabinet."

Weisman's colleague Yitzhak Moda'i, MK, gave a straighter answer: "The number of extra votes we'll scoop up depends on who leads the Alignment list. But whatever happens the Rabins affair won't spoil our chances."

Other Likud leaders said: "It would be good for us if a dove like Foreign Minister Yigal Allon or Abba Eban headed the Alignment ticket." And one Herut man had practical advice for campaign propagandists: "Let's prove that Peres isn't such a hawk as he pretends to be, if he can run with doves like Eban and Yossi Sarid."

Sheil chief Leva Ellav, MK, said: "Alignment doves will be put off if Peres becomes Premier. So they'll switch to Sheil. Moreover, all our

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sadly missed and dearly beloved by his family and friends.

The funeral will take place in Nahariya, today at 4 p.m.

We mourn the passing of our counselor and friend

SHLOMO ARAZI
and extend our deepest sympathy to his family.

The American Jewish Committee — Israel Office

On the first anniversary of the death of our beloved

NATHAN (Barney) GURLAND

there will be a memorial service at his grave at Savyon Cemetery on Monday, April 11, 1977, at 5 p.m.

Rake, Michael Jonathan Gurliand

On the fourth jehrezt of the passing of my dear husband

MAX Y. GUTBETER

we will visit his grave on Monday, April 11, 1977, at 3:30 p.m., at Avraham's.

The unveiling of the tombstone in memory of

NORMAN M. JACOBS

will take place at the Savyon Cemetery, on Monday, April 11, 1977, at 4 p.m.

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كنا من الالهي



Pilgrims of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church carry a heavy wooden cross in the Good Friday procession along the Via Dolorosa in Jerusalem's Old City, while at another place on the cobbled street, a Greek Orthodox priest (right) zooms in on the thousands of pilgrims commemorating Jesus' crucifixion. (Rahamim Yisraeli)

princesses, ministers in official visits

Jerusalem Post staff
Two royal princesses and two senior ministers — Canada's defence Minister and Guatemala's foreign Minister — head the list of visitors due to arrive today to begin official visits.

Princesses Srinidhara and Srinidhara left Bangkok yesterday for a tour that will also take in Iran. The princesses in Bangkok said the visit was part of King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit's 25th wedding anniversary. They will spend the night in Jerusalem and return to Iran for a three-day visit.

During their stay in Israel the princesses, who will be accompanied by a party of 10, will tour archaeological sites and various institutions throughout the country. They will be the luncheon guests of resident Katir, and will also meet with Golda Meir and Mrs. Ruth Shimon, wife of the Foreign Minister.

Also due today, for a three-day visit, is Canadian Defence Minister Ernest Dimeon, who will be the inner guest this evening of Defence Minister Shimon Peres. During his stay the minister will tour Jerusalem and will visit the Golan Heights, where he will meet with Canadian troops serving in the UN force there. He will also meet with Foreign Minister Yigal Allon.

Thousands of pilgrims retrace Jesus' steps

Thousands of pilgrims from around the world, many stumbling beneath the weight of heavy wooden crosses, on Friday retraced Jesus' footsteps to Golgotha, the site of his crucifixion. Today these pilgrims will be celebrating Easter Day, the festival of his resurrection.

The narrow Via Dolorosa in the Old City of Jerusalem was thronged with thousands on Good Friday, with the pilgrims pausing at the 14 stations of the cross for devotions.

The bells of the Crusader-built Church of the Holy Sepulchre echoed throughout the city as the faithful filed through the dark halls of the church, which encompasses the traditional site of Calvary and Jesus' tomb.

The solemn procession was led by Greek Orthodox Archbishop Simon of Jerash. Greek Orthodox and Latin Easter services coincide once in four years, with the churches alternating at the procession's head.

Black-robed pilgrims from Greece and Cyprus mingled with Asians and Africans along the cobbled route from the Praetorium, where Jesus was sentenced, to Calvary. One group of Americans was led by a priest in jeans and a university sweatshirt under his white clerical collar.

Kinac Weinstein writes:
Some 190 members of the Ethiopian Orthodox Church arrived in Jerusalem on the eve of Good Friday. Dressed in white gabi, they joined the Via Dolorosa procession on Good Friday and will participate in Easter services today on the roof of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.

Until 13 years ago, the traditional pilgrimage to Jerusalem was made on foot across the deserts of Sudan, Egypt and Sinai, beginning immediately after Christmas in order to arrive in time for Easter. This year's pilgrims came on three different group flights. For most, this is the first visit to Israel and they will spend a week touring the country.

The Ethiopian Orthodox keep a half-day Lenten fast during the 40 days before Easter, during which they eat no meat, fish or dairy products, subsisting only on vegetarian food, taken in the afternoon.

Pessah ends with the drive back home

Holidaymakers pulled up their tent-stakes, packed their children and picnic gear into cars and headed back home yesterday afternoon as the Pessah holiday came to an end.

Except for families who spent the last day of Pessah clogging the roads and camping in various beauty spots, the major events over the weekend were two marches in the Golan Heights and a rock-blues festival in Ein Gev and a rock-blues festival in Ein Gev and a rock-blues festival in Ein Gev.

Some 15,000 people, including a group of high school pupils from south Lebanon villages, took part in the Yehiam march. The march — commemorating the 47 Israelis killed in the effort to reach the beleaguered kibbutz Yehiam during the War of Independence — was over three separate routes of different lengths.

In the Golan Heights, 6,000 took part in the Galilee march, marking the coming 10th anniversary of the first civilian settlements in the Golan.

Music lovers, depending on what kind of music they love, crowded to two widely separated spots over the weekend. A large crowd came to Ein Gev on the east side of the Kinneret for five hours of the Ein Gev festival, wound up by the Israeli Philharmonic Orchestra conducted by Leonard Bernstein.

In Nevot the end of the holiday was celebrated with a bang on Friday. Memphis Slim, Arty Zilber and other stars kept some 6,000 youths dancing on the beach with a rock and blues festival lasting until 3 o'clock yesterday morning.

The last central event of Pessah, the Moroccan Jews' Mimouna, takes place today. Some 50,000 people are expected to crowd into Jerusalem's Vale of Rehavia for the central event which is due to be addressed by President Ephraim Katzir.

Also today, the 22nd international flower show in Haifa winds up at midnight after 10 days of exhibitions and more than 200,000 visitors.

And it's back to school tomorrow.

Israeli among piano finalists

By SOPHIE KAHN
Special to The Jerusalem Post
TEL AVIV. — Twelve candidates, including Israel's Natasha Tadsen, were chosen at midnight on Thursday to take part in the second stage of the Arthur Schnitzler International Piano Contest which will take place at the Tel Aviv Museum today and tomorrow.

The pruning out of the contestants in the first phase was an "exciting experience," according to some participants. Two contestants from Greece and Turkey found the stress too much for them and quit in the middle.

Rabinstein himself joined the jury, composed of twelve world-renowned pianists. He will deliver the prizes to the finalists at a gala concert to be held at Binyan Ha'oma on Saturday.

UHF channels shut today

Several UHF television channels in central Israel will not broadcast today because of work on the expansion of the TV network in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem areas.

Channel 27 in the Dan region and channels 40 and 56 which are picked up in Jerusalem will not be broadcasting. Viewers can tune to VHF channels 7, 8, and 10. Broadcasts on the UHF channels will resume tomorrow if the expansion work is completed in time.

PLO-Syrian pact in Lebanon dangerous for Israel: Gur

Agreement between the Palestinians and the Syrians in Lebanon would bring Israel's relations with Syria to a point of great danger, Chief of Staff Mordechai Gur said yesterday. Gur said Israel "could not ignore" such an agreement, which could mean renewed terrorist activity on the Lebanese border, and warned Syria to "weigh the matter thoroughly."

Speaking in an interview on the Army Radio, Gur said he does not believe the current battles between the Christians and terrorists would have any great effect on the shape of things to come inside Lebanon. But, he added, they would greatly influence Israel's future relations with Lebanon.

The Palestinians, according to Gur, are going through a severe military crisis while trying to change their political image.

Recalling the "Greater Syria" dream of a country that would encompass Lebanon, the Chief of Staff said that, whatever the results of the Lebanese turmoil, "all of us, not only the IDF, must presume that Syrian influence will predominate in Lebanon for quite a long time." He said the Syrians may act "intelligently" and form an administration that would allow them to influence every aspect of Lebanese life without appearing to be an occupying power.

Asked about a possible Syrian threat to Israel from the Lebanese border, Gur said that in the short term, Syria's ability to conduct a full-scale war against Israel has been impaired. The Syrians could now attack both from Lebanon and the Golan Heights, but with their scattered force they would be wary of Israel's reaction, with Damascus not fully protected, he said.

But Gur warned that the Syrians may change a "limited" war for political aims.

In the longer term, Gur believes that within a year or two, the Syrians can reinforce their Golan force — now five divisions — with another division without diverting any forces from Lebanon. This, he said, would change their present weakness with scattered forces to additional strength.

Asked about Syria's increasingly closer relation with Jordan, the Chief of Staff said the Syrians have reinforced their southern flank with additional forces, including missiles, to bolster the Jordanian army. The Jordanian army, according to Gur, had undergone radical changes and now stands at par with the IDF in mobility and flexibility.

The Egyptian army is big and strong enough now, especially for a limited "political" war, Gur said. The F-4 aircraft Egypt has requested from the U.S. are versatile interceptors also useful for short-range bombing. The plane can be used like the Russian Mig 21, and if flown from Jordan, could hit Israel's population centres, Gur said. Israel cannot agree that an Arab nation that has not discarded war as an instrument of policy, should receive such "defensive weapons," he added. (Itim)

Four held for blast at Jaffa police stakeout

TEL AVIV (Itim). — Four youths were arrested before dawn on Friday as suspects in an explosion that took place an hour earlier next to a Jaffa apartment used as a police stakeout. They were remanded in custody for five days on Friday by Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court.

Police prosecutor Rav Samal Josef Rotem claimed in court that the four were arrested because of information in police hands that they had threatened the owner of the apartment several times over its use as an information-gathering point for the police. They were picked up at 3 a.m. Friday, an hour and a quarter after the blast.

A family with five children live in the apartment, which was seriously damaged in the explosion. The children had to be extricated from their room, but none of them was hurt. A police sapper found that the quarter-kilo explosive charge had been of army manufacture.

The prosecutor said that a drug investigation had been going on in the neighbourhood for some time, and that the police had set up stakeouts from this apartment. The suspects, he charged, were seeking revenge for the arrest of drug dealers, especially the recent conviction of a young man named Shliss.

The prosecutor told the magistrate that the investigation had only just begun, and he asked for a remand order for 15 days.

The lawyer for three of the suspects — Ya'acov Reuveni, David Ben-Meir and Ya'acov Kadosh — said they had no connection whatsoever with the blast. The lawyer, Svi Lidski, charged that the arrest of his clients' fit in with a police "system" of arresting people although they had alibis and there was nothing to connect them with the crime. He said the explosion could have been intended to injure a policeman, and may have had no connection either with the woman who lived in the apartment or the suspects. He added that his clients all hold regular jobs and there was no reason to refer to them as underworld characters.

The fourth suspect was Shalom Kalmis.

Judge Ephraim Shalev, in agreeing to hold the youths for five days, said that the Jaffa explosion was one of the worst in a recent series. He said the police should be given time to check the alibis of the suspects.

THIS WEEK

Lotto Draw 15/77
All prizes increased
First prize fund
IL 1,000,000*
Tomorrow is the last day
for handing in Lotto entries
* Subject to rescrutiny

U.S. scientists to Moscow for dissident seminar

NEW YORK (JTA). — The Committee of Concerned Scientists has announced that twelve eminent American scientists will travel to the USSR next week for a three-day scientific seminar. The seminar, entitled "The many body problem and its applications in physics and other fields," is being organized by Soviet refuseniks and dissident scientists.

Among the members of the Soviet organizing committee are Prof. Mark Azbel (chairman), Academician Benjamin Levich, Prof. Aleksandr Lerner, Prof. Yuri Orlov and Nobel laureate Andre Sakharov.

The committee said that the Soviet organizers have found their scientific careers greatly restricted as a result of having sought permission to emigrate or having been outspoken in defence of human rights. Most have been dismissed from their academic or research posts.

They are denied access to scientific libraries and they are prevented from participating in scientific conferences either in the USSR or abroad. Soviet scientific journals will not publish their articles. In fact, systematic efforts have been made to remove the names of refusenik scientists from Soviet and Eastern European scientific publications. Many of the refusenik and dissident scientists have lived in a state of limbo for more than five years.

Jaffa man held in murder of drug dealer

TEL AVIV (Itim). — A Jaffa man, Charlie Ben-Simon, was on Friday remanded in custody for 10 days on suspicion of direct involvement in the murder last week of Max Elkayam, a suspected drug dealer.

Judge Ephraim Shalev, however, ordered the release from custody of three other suspects, saying the police had failed to present convincing evidence.

Ben-Simon, together with Moshe Laeri, 19, and two women, Rivka Maika and Rachel Shoshani, were brought before the magistrate on Friday morning. Police said they found Laeri — whom they described as a drug addict — and Rivka Maika — Ben-Simon's reputed wife — in Ben-Simon's flat when they came to question him about the murder.

Shoshani, 20, was arrested when she came to police headquarters the morning after the murder, concerning the victim's movements the day before his murder.

But the magistrate accepted the contention of the attorneys for the suspects that there was no evidence to remand Laeri and Maika. As for Rachel Shoshani, she had a perfect alibi — at the time of the murder she was in the police lockup at Abu Kabir.

Who should be Israel's Prime Minister?

- A decent and honest man who has succeeded in everything he has done
- A man of action and of intellect
- A man of vision and of the people
- A man chosen as head of his party in a democratic manner
- An experienced leader who sticks to his word, and carries out his promises
- A man who is supported by an experienced and reliable team of people, who can make difficult decisions and implement them.

That man is Yigael Yadin
He should be Israel's Prime Minister

DEMOCRATIC MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

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Post-Secondary Education Fund
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Scholarships to 212 Students from Development Areas

Kiryat Shmona Beth She'an
Hatzor Haglilit Yeruham
Maalot Mitzpeh Ramon
Shlomi Eilat

on this occasion the local authorities will receive grants for the acquisition of text-books and other teaching aids.



The ceremony in the presence of Minister of Education and Culture Mr. Aharon Yadin, Sir Isaac Wolfson and Mr. Moshe Porat will take place tomorrow, Monday April 11th at 11.30 a.m. in the Auditorium of the Petroleum Institute 26, Rehov Hauniversita, Ramat Aviv, Tel-Aviv.

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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
AND CULTURE
Department of
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1. COMPLETE INTENSIVE ULPAN — for all levels. Graduates will receive a diploma from the Ministry of Education and Culture	4½ months	Sept. 18 Nov. 27

2. SPRING AND SUMMER COURSES for all levels	2 months	June 26 Sept. 18
3. SPOKEN HEBREW FOR BEGINNERS	4 weeks	May 1 May 29

Hebrew for Hebrew Speakers:

4. HEBREW REHEARSAL	4 weeks	May 1 May 29
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5. ELIMINATION OF SPELLING MISTAKES	4 weeks	May 15 June 26
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6. HEBREW READING and WRITING	4 weeks	May 15 June 19
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Arabic

7. SPOKEN ARABIC FOR BEGINNERS (for Hebrew speakers)	3 weeks	May 15 June 19
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Why Soviets fear cruise missile

By ANDREW WILSON

LONDON (Otns). — The cruise missile is one of the most fascinating and deadly weapons ever to emerge from the drawing boards of the American aerospace industry.

It is quite small (about 10 metres long) and powered with a simple jet engine, similar to that on most passenger jets. It has been compared to the wartime German V-1, but this can be misleading.

First, as currently projected, it has vastly greater range. (The V-1 had only about 320 kms). Secondly it can be launched in a variety of ways: from surface launchers, aircraft or submerged submarines.

This means that, unlike existing ballistic missiles, that must be launched from fixed "silos," it is almost impossible to locate and knock out before launching. But what makes it so deadly is the guidance system, which can direct it to within 30 feet of a target up to 3,300 kms away. This is done by a combination of inertial navigation and a system called Tercom.

Tercom — short for "terrain comparison" — works from data provided by orbiting satellites. These take high-definition photographs of the cruise missile's target area and the ground that must be overflown to reach it.

The pictures are then electronically analyzed to provide data on the exact elevation of every feature, including buildings, in the selected terrain.

The data is then fed, in digital form, into the cruise missile's computer memory, providing it with a kind of electronic relief map.

On launching, the missile follows a pre-set course (also lodged in its computer memory), keeping pre-selected heights above the ground. The course almost invariably includes hundreds of turns in order to hug valleys and take advantage of mountains and other features that will conceal it from enemy ground radar.

If it deviates by more than a few metres from its course, the computer immediately notes the discrepancy between the missile's height above ground features and the height prescribed by the "relief map" carried in its memory. Its course is then corrected.

Since all this information is carried inside the missile, there is no possibility of the enemy "jamming" it. And, since it flies at over 650 k.p.h. and at less than 100 metres, it is virtually invulnerable to ground gunfire or enemy anti-aircraft missiles, which cannot be armed and locked on to it in time.

What makes the cruise missile such a prickly subject for a strategic arms limitation agreement is that it can be easily switched to nuclear, conventional, or chemical warheads.

It could just as well be deployed against battlefield targets a few hundred kilometres away as against strategic targets, such as enemy cities or missile sites, at great distances.

And there would be no means, on present evidence, of telling whether cruise missiles were "tactical" or "strategic."

Reports from Moscow suggest that the Russians are deeply apprehensive of the cruise missile, whose technology they do not expect to acquire for at least five years and whose introduction by the Americans could seriously upset the strategic balance.

The other obstacle to a Salt agreement — Russia's Backfire bomber — presents similar ambiguities. In a tactical role, Backfire (to use its Nato code-name) is ideally suited to attacking local or "theatre" targets in Western Europe.

But with a radius of action of 4,800-5,500 kms, extendable with in-flight refuelling, it could easily reach strategic targets anywhere in the United States.

Photographs of Backfire, with in-flight refuelling probes, which could be intended to adapt them for this purpose, are in the possession of the Royal Air Force.

Carter renews Salt contacts

CAIRO, Georgia. — President Carter, disclosing he has had private exchanges with Soviet leader Leonid Brezhnev, said on Friday that the United States is re-evaluating its strategic arms limitation proposals and would "be very eager" to change them if they are inequitable.

If the Soviet Union comes up with "some explanation" of its own arms capabilities "of which I am not aware," Carter said, "I would certainly take that into consideration" as well.

Carter spoke with reporters at Dobbins Air Force Base in Marietta, Ga., en route to an Easter visit to his

eldest son, Jack, in this small town north of Atlanta. Most of his family accompanied him.

The President said he had spent considerable time going over the U.S. proposal for strategic arms reduction since it was rejected by the Soviet Union, and "my own opinion so far... is that our proposal was fair and equitable."

But he said that if upon further study it is found to be inequitable, as the Soviets contend, a change in the proposal is possible.

Although both he and his top national security advisers have said before that some parts of the

American proposal are negotiable, this was the first time that Carter has said flatly that the United States would be eager to change any inequities.

Carter called the messages he had exchanged with Brezhnev "a routine sort of exchange," and said they are part of the reason he is hopeful a new arms limitation agreement will be reached. "I am not discouraged," he added.

On Thursday the Carter Administration had quietly reopened talks with the Soviets on strategic arms limitation and had hinted strongly that its negotiating style this time would be secret.

Barely a week after the failure of his high visibility arms negotiating mission to Moscow, Secretary of State Cyrus Vance met to discuss Salt matters with Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin. The session, Thursday morning, was not publicly announced, and key members of the negotiating team that went to Moscow did not participate.

At the same time, Paul Warnke, the Administration's chief Salt negotiator, told reporters that President Carter's semipublic negotiating style may be on the way out, at least for the time being.

Looking ahead toward Vance's meeting in Geneva next month with Soviet Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko, Warnke said the Administration already "discussed" the desirability of "immediate negotiations with the Soviet Union which would not be public."

Criticism of last week's U.S. mission from both Soviet and American sources had focused on Carter's insistence on announcing publicly the U.S. bargaining position before Vance had even arrived in Moscow to present it.

The meeting with Dobrynin, who only Tuesday night returned from Moscow, was listed on no published schedule. It came to public notice only because a United Press International reporter happened to be in the State Department underground garage at 9.30 a.m. when the ambassador's car drove in. The garage entrance is regularly used by visitors wishing to escape public notice. (AP, WPNS)

U.S. ban on plutonium meets with 'polite' resistance

NEW YORK (AP). — U.S. President Jimmy Carter's new attempt to restrict the production of plutonium and its use for production of nuclear energy met with polite but stubborn resistance on Friday from West Germany, France and Japan, his primary targets.

The Bonn Government declined to comment on Carter's announcement that he was ending U.S. Government support for plutonium processing and would seek agreements with foreign governments to restrict access to the nuclear plant fuel that also can be used to make nuclear weapons.

But hours before Carter's statement was issued on Thursday, the West German Government issued its own nuclear-policy statement, calling for curtailment of the spread of nuclear weapons by "multinational, non-discriminatory and generally binding" agreements on safeguards and the peaceful use of nuclear energy rather than the restrictions on technology advocated by the American President.

One Bonn official said the German statement was timed to put the policy on record before Carter's announcement.

The West German Government for months has been resisting Washington's efforts to get it to call off the sale to Brazil of a nuclear fuel

reprocessing plant which would produce plutonium as a byproduct. Bonn claims that the agreement with Brazil contains ample safeguards to prevent the use of the plant's output for bombs and warheads.

Observers said the statement reflected growing worry that Carter, in his attempt to restrict the use of technology that could be used for making weapons, is ignoring the needs of countries less rich in domestic energy resources than the U.S.

France is also selling a reprocessing plant, to Pakistan, despite American opposition, and the conservative Paris newspaper "Figaro" attacked Carter's policy statement as a "new Concorde affair."

French officials stressed that this was not their government's official position, and emphasized Carter's statement that the energy problems of other nations might prevent them from following the U.S. lead. One official said the President had "taken very much into account the observations during recent consultations."

Japanese Foreign Minister Ichiro Hatoyama said Carter's statement does not affect his government's plans to build a reprocessing plant because it applies only to commercial reprocessing, and the Japanese plant would be noncommercial.

KLM crew 'never heard' control tower before fatal take off collision

WASHINGTON (UPI). — Radio interference prevented the crew of a KLM Royal Dutch Airlines jumbo jet from hearing control tower instructions that might have prevented its runway collision with another jumbo jet at the Canary Island airport last month, "The Washington Post" reported yesterday.

The "Post" said a preliminary study by U.S. investigators of tape recordings from the KLM jetliner's

cockpit apparently confirmed that the Dutch crew started its takeoff without getting formal permission from air traffic control.

On its takeoff, the KLM Boeing 747 collided with a Pan American World Airways 747 on the runway, killing 57 persons.

The "Post" said a transcript of the tower radio traffic showed this exchange taking place seconds before the collision:

KLM to tower — "KLM is now ready for takeoff and we're waiting for our ATC (air traffic control) clearance."

Tower to KLM — "The tower has given the KLM crew navigational instructions to be followed after takeoff."

KLM to tower — "We are not on (or at) takeoff."

Tower to KLM — "Okay, standby for takeoff. I will call you."

The "Post" said a tape recording of what was said and heard in the cockpit showed that the KLM crew apparently never heard the words "standby for takeoff, I will call you," but only heard the word "okay" and started their takeoff.

Lewis officially nominated as envoy to Israel

WASHINGTON (AP). — The White House officially announced yesterday that President Carter has nominated Samuel W. Lewis to be ambassador to Israel. The choice of Lewis, who was formerly assistant secretary for international organizations, was one of the first batch of nominations Carter has put forward based on recommendations of his advisory board on ambassadorial appointments.

Other nominations were: former U.S. Senator Mike Mansfield as ambassador to Japan, Yale University president Kingman Brewster as envoy to Great Britain, and former Princeton University President Robert F. Goheen as ambassador to India.

The White House, announcing a series of 10 major ambassadorial selections, said Carter had also chosen two Georgians for envoy jobs, picking Anne Cox Chambers to be ambassador to Belgium and Philip Alston Jr. to be ambassador to Australia.

900 reported dead in Iran earthquake

TEHRAN (AP). — The Teheran newspaper "Kayhan" reported yesterday that 900 people were killed in last Wednesday's earthquake, but official figures stand at 332 deaths and several hundred injured.

The quake demolished a large region between Broyen and Shahrkurd 120 kms west of Isfahan in central Iran.

"Kayhan" correspondents reported from the quake scene yesterday that the toll is well over 900 with more than 1,000 injured.

Soviets try to beat Easter with rock music

MOSCOW. — Soviet authorities yesterday mounted entertainment spectacles apparently designed to compete with traditional Russian Orthodox observances of Easter.

Moscow movie houses featured special midnight presentations of sought-after foreign films, and the central television network offered rock music specials by popular groups.

Following an anti-religious film week in theatres across the capital, the flood of entertainment led many cynical citizens, even observers of official atheism, to conclude that the authorities hoped to tempt Russians away from church, particularly the young.

They noted that Soviet cinemas have not before offered midnight showings, and Orthodox services on Easter generally begin before 12 p.m. and last until nearly dawn.

Theatres showing the films, which included "The New Centurions," an American police adventure, "They Shoot Horses Don't They?" and "The Liberation of Lord Byron Jones," were mostly in outlying areas near churches.

The television network featured a rock concert starring Cliff Richard of Britain, the first western-style pop singer to visit the Soviet Union since the 1950s. Although Easter is officially frowned on under Communism, it remains an immensely popular holiday.

British to probe illegal oil sale to Rhodesia

LONDON (AP). — British Foreign Secretary David Owen, who is scheduled to leave today on a peace-seeking trip to Southern Africa, announced on Friday that he is setting up a probe of whether major oil companies have been illegally providing fuel to Rhodesia.

British Petroleum, 70 per cent owned by the British government, and Royal Dutch Shell are among those to be investigated about violations of Rhodesia sanctions, Owen said.

Rhodesia, a British colony that broke away in 1965 and set up a white minority government, has been the target of UN sanctions. That means some UN members agreed not to trade with Rhodesia as a means of putting pressure on the white regime to give power to blacks. In Britain these sanctions are given force by a 1968 law.

Gasoline is rationed in Rhodesia but there is no significant shortage. Landlocked Rhodesia has one sympathetic neighbour in white-ruled South Africa.

The probe is seen as an attempt to strengthen Britain's image in black Africa as an effective mediator to end the guerrilla conflict in Rhodesia and usher in a peaceful transfer to rule by the 20-to-1 black majority.

Britain has been criticized by black African leaders for not doing more to choke off Rhodesia's supplies, and last month an anti-apartheid group in London published a pamphlet claiming BP and Shell had broken the sanctions by supplying oil to Rhodesia through subsidiaries in South Africa. BP has said in the past that it does not trade with Rhodesia.



PREGNANT PRINCESS. — Expecting her first baby in November, 24-year-old Princess Anne watches the recent horse and carriage races at Ascot, England, in which husband, Mark Phillips, came after Buckingham Palace's announcement yesterday of the forthcoming blessed event, the Princess was deluged with well-wishes "how to bulge gracefully" while commentators speculated unborn child's name and welcomed Queen Elizabeth II to the "niles' club." (UPI)

15 die in Pakistan anti-gov't rioting

LAHORE. — At least 15 people were reported killed yesterday in the worst anti-government riots here since the opposition launched a mass protest movement against Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Usually reliable sources said most of the victims had apparently died from bullet wounds in running battles between police and opposition demonstrators protesting against the convening of the new Punjab provincial assembly.

The demonstrators are protesting the alleged massive rigging of Pakistan's March 7 parliamentary elections.

One local journalist said he counted eight bodies in the mortuary of Mayo Hospital, the biggest in the Punjab capital of two million people.

Eyewitnesses said several of the victims were killed when police opened fire on stone-throwing demonstrators taking refuge under the red-brick porticos of Lahore's High Court in the main street.

More than 100 persons reported injured, many seriously, bleeding from their faces, allegedly being beaten by police. Clashes flared in dozens of throughout the city as police tear gas to stop opposition protesting the heavily guarded assembly building, where all members of Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party (PPP) were the oath of office.

Demonstrators hurled stones, bricks at police, tore down a tiling billboard and lit bonfires in the streets. At least three government vehicles were set ablaze.

The nine-party opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA) said its acting president, Nawaz Nasrullah Khan, was arrested and taken to a police station. He had attempted to join a protest march. The assembly building had the only important opposition left free following mass arrests last month. (Reuters)

Three hunted for killing Baader-gang prosecutor

KARLSRUHE (Reuters). — Police on Friday named three men they want to question in connection with Thursday's assassination of Chief Public Prosecutor Siegfried Buback.

The three wanted men, Guenter Sonnenberg, 22, Christian Klar, 24, and Knut Folkerts, 25, all suspected violent anarchists, are already on the wanted list for other crimes.

The government has offered a reward of 200,000 marks (more than \$175,000) for information on the shooting of Buback, one of the key figures in the prosecution of the Baader-Meinhof urban terrorists.

Buback and his driver died instantly when a motorcycle drew up alongside their car and the pillow passenger sprayed it with sub-machinegun fire.

A bodyguard in the limousine, which was taking the 57-year-old public prosecutor to his office, is in critical condition.

Friday's police statement set strongest suspicions were centred on Sonnenberg. He and Klar, suspected of shooting a border official at the West German frontier on January 5, when they were stopped for a check.

One man detained on Thursday was later released after questioning. He had been riding a motorcycle similar to the Japanese built type used by the assassins.

Interpol and police throughout West Germany were alerted to hunt for the killers, but the was believed to be focused mainly on the Karlsruhe area. A close was kept on meetings of suspected anarchists and terrorists.

Castro home after five-week tour

HAVANA (Reuters). — Cuban President Fidel Castro returned home on Friday after a five-week tour of Africa and Eastern Europe.

Castro visited Libya, South Yemen, Somalia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mozambique, Angola, Algeria, East Germany and the Soviet Union.

The tour ended with a four-day visit to Moscow and talks with Soviet

Communist Party leader Leonid Brezhnev. After Castro left on Friday, the Soviets announced they plan to help build a power station in Cuba. Two Soviet engineers would help and install the power station section, with a capacity megawatts, later this year.

When complete, the station would have a capacity of 1,700 megawatts.

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(open 24 hours)

THIS WEEK at the TEL-AVIV MUSEUM

EXHIBITIONS

TEL AVIV MUSEUM, New Building, 27 Sd. Shaul Hamelech

ANTHONY CARO, TABLE SCULPTURE, 1966-77 with the cooperation of the British Council.

Opening Tuesday, April 12, 8.00 p.m. The artist will talk about his work in the Reznais Hall at 9.00 p.m.

AVIVA URI — DRAWINGS, Graphics Hall

A Tribute to Sam Zacks — Drawings, Painting and Sculpture from the collection of Sam and Ayala Zacks, Zacks Hall.

HELENA RUBINSTEIN PAVILION, 6 Behov Tarnet

JOSEF KOUNDELKA — "GYPSIES" (photographs)

Talk on Josef Kounelka by Micha Baran at 7.30 p.m., on Saturday, April 16.

DAN REISINGER — DESIGN, 1967-76

LECTURES

Monday, April 11, 10.00 a.m.: "Aspects of Modern Ready Made Sculpture," by Dorit Yifat.

Monday, April 11, 8.30 p.m.: In the series, "Urban Landscape from Ancient Times to the 20th Century" (Series 2) — "The Urban Landscape in Art in the Waning of the Middle Ages," by Dr. Avigdor W.G. Posey, The Hebrew University.

CONCERTS

Saturday, April 16, 8.30 p.m.

Tel Aviv Quartet

Chaim Tanb, violin; Yofim Boiko, violin; Daniel Benyamini, viola; Uri Weisel, cello; Yona Eitling, clarinet.

Programme: Beethoven — Quartet op. 127; Brahms — Clarinet Quintet op. 115.

SHABATARUT

Saturday, April 16, 11.00 a.m. Moderator: Y. Livni.

VISITING HOURS: Sun., Mon., Wed., Thur., 10 a.m.-5 p.m. (Library 10 a.m.-4 p.m.); Tue., 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 4-10 p.m. (Library 10 a.m.-1 p.m., 4-7 p.m.); Fri., 10 a.m.-3 p.m. (Library 10 a.m.-1 p.m.); Sat. night, 7-11 p.m.

The Museum Building, Sderot Shaul Hamelech, will be open on Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., entrance free.

The New Building will be open on Saturday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., entrance free.

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Alarm signals in south Lebanon

ON THE SURFACE, the civil war raging in southern Lebanon was little more than a clash between local villagers and Palestinians over control of high ground and access routes linking the border area neighboring Israel with the rest of the country. Despite the savagery of the clashes, especially the PLO "offensive" in the fighting was evidently being blown up out of proportion. As every part of the war propaganda, each

THE WEEK IN REVIEW

Anan Safadi

boastside tended to exaggerate the scope of the fighting. Reports of "honor battles" and scenes of genuine explosions of warrockets and artillery shells were expounded coupled with other scenes of blowvillagers plowing their fields, depewmen strolling with water jars on their heads and children romping in playgrounds. Rather than turning the northward Beirut for Damascus, unvillagers looked to see whether Israel's humanitarian aid would be augmented into actual assistance in combating the Palestinian intruders.

Casualties and damages in the south have been only a fraction of those incurred in Lebanon's 20-month civil war that was snuffed out in November. Unofficial reports indicated that some 40 persons have been killed and about 100 wounded in the southern clashes which broke out on a large scale two weeks ago. Compared to the civil war toll of some 60,000 dead and an estimated 150,000 wounded, in addition to \$5 billion in material damages. Perhaps the most wrenching aspect of the trouble in the south was the plight of tens of thousands of refugees from villages turned into war bastions.

At the heart of the conflict in the south is the PLO presence — the issue that kindled Lebanon's overall civil war. Allied with an amalgam of leftist and Communist sympathizers, the PLO forces have been seeking to entrench themselves as close as they could to Israel as a reportedly to undermine any unfavourable Israel-Arab settlement.

All indications were that the PLO's actions were being instigated by Iraq and Libya, both of which oppose any peaceful settlement with Israel. The countries are known to be channeling aid to the PLO and leftist forces through Lebanon's southern ports, mainly Tyre.

What remains a puzzle is the role of Syria, whose troops control almost all Lebanon except for the sensitive southern border region neighbouring Israel. So far there has been no proof of Syrian intervention in the south. But, in the context of its competition with Iraq and Libya, Syria apparently loosened the curbs on PLO-leftist forces heading south. Thus, the Syrians were far from preparing a transfer of authority in the troubled south to a regrouped Lebanese army. The Syrians claim to be promoting such an army together with Lebanese President Elias Sarkis.

The Syrians apparently failed to realize that the worst aspect of the current troubles in southern Lebanon are not what they are, but what they could lead to.

BETWEEN THE LINES — Hersh Goodman's review of the Arab press will be back as a regular weekly feature on this page, next Sunday.

Chit Chat
A unique Jewish Art Page-Judoka

Sadat won friends, but didn't influence people

WASHINGTON. — Marvin Kalb, the veteran CBS news diplomatic correspondent, summed up Egyptian President Anwar Sadat's visit to Washington last week as something of a "mixed bag." Sadat, who held talks with President Carter on Monday and Tuesday, left Washington without winning a U.S. pledge to provide him with the weapons he wants — F-16 fighter bombers, Tow anti-tank missiles and other electronic equipment — and he also did not change Carter's mind about not dealing with the PLO until it recognizes Israel's right to exist and accepts UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338. "But his visit here was still something of a plus both for him and for the United States," Kalb said. "He and President Carter established a solid working relationship."

Kalb, as usual, seems to have hit the nail right on its head. By all accounts, Carter and Sadat did not off personally — an important development in the U.S.-sponsored effort to revive the Geneva Middle East peace talks during the second half of 1977. The Sadat-Carter friendship, which has been highly publicized here, takes on added significance if one recalls that during the recent U.S. presidential campaign, the Egyptian leader was rather un-diplomatic in letting it be known that he would prefer to see "my friend Henry" Kissinger remain on the job — meaning that Gerald Ford would have to be re-elected.

"I love your President," Sadat told one of Carter's aides shortly after completing more than five hours of talks with the American leader. And Sadat told ABC anchorwoman Barbara Walters that he now has as close a relationship with Carter as he had had with Kissinger. "Yes," Sadat said, "and he (Carter) knows

this. I told him this."

During the nationally televised interview with Walters, Sadat added: "I must tell you quite frankly, after our first discussion and the second private one between me and him only for one and a half hours, the man has gone straight to my heart. I admire him, really." Carter himself was only slightly less sycophantic in describing Sadat's "sensitivity, his intelligence, his vision and his courage."

Lavishing praise on one another was to be expected. But the degree to which the compliments were hurled indicated to most observers here that Sadat and Carter really did like each other.

This will certainly prove important as the so-called peace process continues. Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's unexpected withdrawal from the Israeli political scene has tended to take attention away from the Sadat visit here. But as the political dust settles in Israel, American officials are making it clear that they will be expecting a continued Israeli willingness to participate in the U.S.-mediated dialogue. Therefore, a close assessment of the Sadat talks here — based on initial impressions by sources close to the President — is worthwhile.

Sadat's public comments, often contradictory, were more confusing than enlightening. Newspaper headlines, following Sadat's Blair House press conference, reflected this confusion.

"Sadat deflates Carter peace balloon," screamed "The New York Daily News."

"Sadat leans toward U.S. position," suggested "The Christian Science Monitor."

"Sadat rejects Carter bid on Israeli lines," charged "The

Washington Post."

Sadat says his goal is a normalization of ties with Israel," fronted "The New York Times."

The question of Sadat's willingness to normalize relations with Israel was most uncertain with American officials indicating that the Egyptian leader had demonstrated a new flexibility while Israeli diplomats quickly charged that he had not changed basic Egyptian refusal to accept a "real peace" with Israel.

At an earlier press conference, Sadat said that he was in favour of normalization, but only after a peace agreement had been reached at Geneva. A few hours later, however, he seemed to reverse himself when he said: "When I say full normalization it means that the state of belligerency that has prevailed since the creation of Israel for 28 years until this moment — we end."

Sadat continued: "I am for full peace. But not the interpretation of Israel for full peace. My definition of peace is this: let us end the state of belligerency."

Question: "This is very important, Mr. President, because President Carter, when talking about full peace, seemed to be speaking of the same kind of peace as Israel did. What about diplomatic relations, exchange of students, exchange of tourists, exchange of journalists? Would that be part of this peace?"

Sadat: "This is not at all, I mean, an argument about full peace. As I told you, it is imposing conditions, the old Israeli conditions that they couldn't impose even after '66 or after their very glorious victory in '67. They couldn't impose these conditions on us."

Question: "Mr. President, in a press conference you talked about normalization of relations..."

By Wolf Blitzer

Sadat: "Quite right."

Question: "... And it may very well be interpreted that by normalization of relations you mean full diplomatic relations, exchange of students, etc."

Sadat: "For me, myself, for my part, I have no objection at all. But let us be practical. The climate is not ready."

Sadat was also ambiguous when discussing his position on a Palestinian state. First, when he arrived, he only used the word "entity," not "state." Later, after reporters began bombarding Egyptian spokesmen with queries on this subtle shift, Sadat reverted to using the word "state." But then, he laid another bombshell when he suggested that there should be two states, Jordan and Palestine with one leader. He did not elaborate or say who that leader should be.

Privately, American officials continue to say that the Egyptian position on this crucial issue still seems fluid. No one here can really say whether or not Sadat is actually in favour of the creation of an independent Palestinian state on the West Bank and Gaza Strip — despite his public protestations that he is indeed.

Similarly, top U.S. sources insist that Sadat might come around in the end and accept some sort of very limited and temporary Israeli defence presence beyond Israel's final legal borders. Publicly, Sadat says this is impossible. "Sovereignty is indivisible," he said. But the Americans note that there would be no question of sovereignty — it would be Egyptian — the only question being whether Israeli security forces could be stationed there for a limited period.

During the next several weeks, as Carter continues his meetings with



Sadat at one of his Washington press conferences last week.

Jordan's King Hussein and Saudi Crown Prince Fahd, both of whom are due here in Washington, and Syrian President Assad, whom he will meet in Europe next month, efforts will be made to find a compromise formula that will meet minimum Arab and Israeli demands regarding the convening of the Geneva conference.

One thing is already certain: American officials believe that Sadat will be reasonable in accepting a working formula — he won't be bogged down in rhetoric or ideology. "He's a practical man," one American official said. "That's what we like about him. And that's what Carter likes about him."

If a goal can be found acceptable to Israel and the Arabs, then Sadat

will not haggle over minor procedural details in achieving it, according to the Americans.

On the bilateral level, the Sadat visit resulted in strengthened U.S. commitments to continue providing economic assistance in massive doses needed to meet Egypt's dire financial problems. New cooperative schemes were discussed at a heightened awareness as both sides began to understand that it would be politically reckless for Carter to anger Congress and American public opinion by meeting Egypt's request for arms at this time. Maybe at some future point, a relatively modest supply relationship in weaponry will begin, but not in the near future — and Sadat left Washington understanding this.

Cypriots get down to hard bargaining

By ANDREAS HADJIPAPAS

NICOSIA. — A Cyprus settlement this year is "a definite possibility," said former U.S. Defence Secretary Clark Clifford at the end of a fact-finding mission to Athens, Ankara and Nicosia, as President Carter's emissary. But Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots, who last week failed to make progress in their resumed peace talks in Vienna, are not so sure.

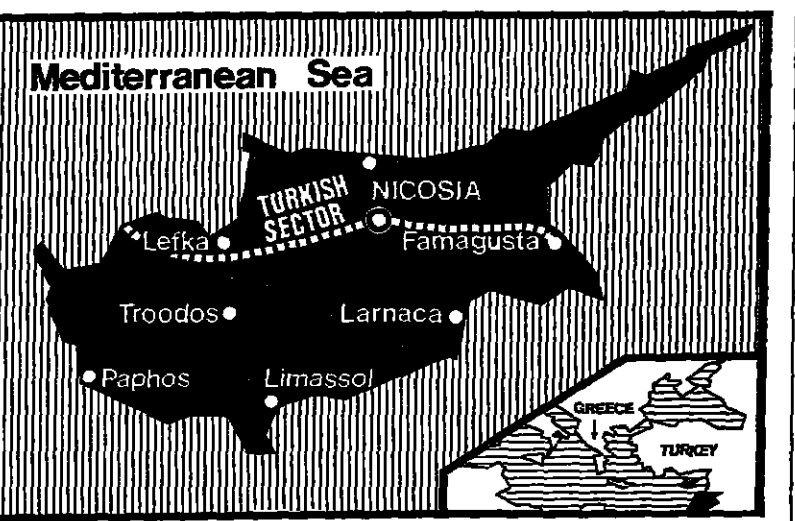
There have been negotiations in the past, which dragged on for years only to end in stalemate, and over-optimistic forecasts and statements are seen by experts as unrealistic.

What makes the new negotiations appear more hopeful?

Both sides, said Clifford, were now ready to table "positive, constructive suggestions" and work hard towards a settlement. "I think this is good time for a settlement," he added.

The "breakthrough" in the year-long stalemate in the talks came in late January when President Makarios had a surprise meeting with Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş, their first encounter for some 14 years. At a second meeting, in February, in the presence of Waldheim, they agreed on a set of "guidelines" for new negotiations. Waldheim hailed the "new spirit" between the two sides in Cyprus. The meeting was definitely an encouraging development which provided new impetus to efforts to end the two and half year state of war and reunite the divided strategic island in the Mediterranean.

The American administration particularly welcomed such a move, as it desires the restoration of good relations between Greece and Turkey in order to reestablish the NATO bastion in the eastern Mediterranean. But there is a lot of caution and apprehension about the peace prospects. Political analysts point out that the "guidelines" agreed on by the two leaders are so loosely framed, that they could be given the widest possible interpretation. And they could lead to months and months of fruitless negotiations.



The first instruction to the negotiators says: "We are seeking an independent, nonaligned, bi-communal federal Republic." The main argument here is expected to centre on the powers of the federal government: The Greeks want a strong central government, the Turks want it as weak as possible.

The second guideline deals with the most difficult issue blocking a settlement — the proportions of territory to be controlled by the two sides. It says: "The territory under the administration of each community should be discussed in the light of economic viability and productivity and land ownership."

The Turkish Cypriots, who comprised approximately 18 per cent of the island's population at the time of the 1974 Turkish invasion, occupy about 38 per cent of the territory, roughly the northern third. The key question is how much territory the Turks are willing to give up.

Denktaş has said he is ready to reduce the Turkish-controlled area to 22.8 per cent, saying or rather claiming that this is the extent of land owned by the Turkish community.

The Greeks, who rely so much on their land registry records as well as files kept by the British colonial administration before 1960, maintain that land owned by Turks does not exceed 17 per cent. Their official proposal to the Turkish side contained an offer of 20 per cent, while Archbishop Makarios said recently he was ready to raise the amount of territory to remain under Turkish

control to around 23 per cent.

Denktaş conceded at a recent press conference that "the difference between the two sides on this point is great, but the criteria as to how to go about determining the issue have been agreed."

The question is which areas the Turks will pull back from. It is almost taken for granted that Famagusta, the seaside resort on the east, once called "the Miami of Cyprus," will be handed back, so that its 30,000 Greek inhabitants can go back to their homes there. Famagusta new town has been seized off by Turkish troops but has not been settled. But other areas, such as the rich, citrus-growing region around Morphou west of Nicosia, may prove a real bone of contention. The Greek inhabitants want to return there, the Turks want to keep it.

Diplomats agree that Archbishop Makarios has come a long way to meet the Turkish demand for a "bizonal federation." He has dropped his policy of a "long struggle" — at least for the time being — and has agreed to negotiations while some 30,000 Turkish mainland troops still hold the northern part of the island.

Denktaş may angrily reject any American intervention or "pressure," but he admits that his community has to rely on infusions of economic aid from Turkey in order to survive. The Carter administration intends apparently to use its influence to promote a settlement. (Gemini)

Italy caught between Libya, Tunisia

By DENNIS REDMONT

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP). — Libya and Tunisia are locked in a naval confrontation, and 40 men, a multi-million dollar oil drilling vessel and the Italian Government are caught in the middle.

A smouldering dispute over drilling rights in the Gulf of Gabes has brought Libyan and Tunisian frigates within gun range of each other. The face-down began February 9, when the Tunisian government asked Italy's state-controlled oil and gas company, Ente Nazionale Idrocarburi (ENI), to stop drilling for oil in an area off the Libyan coast. Tunisia claimed that the platform was over its own continental shelf and sent the frigate Bourguiba to ENI's \$38m. drilling vessel, the Scarabeo IV. Tunisian air force planes overflew the site.

Libya responded by sending its own frigate, the Tobruk, to the scene, about 100 km northwest of Tripoli, claiming it was Libyan territory (24.01.1 degrees north, 12.34.2 east). Libya also told Italy the contract between the Libyan National Oil Company (NOC) and ENI stipulated the drilling must continue.

However, the 40 men on the brand new Scarabeo IV on its first mission after leaving a Hamburg shipyard — suspended drilling operations. "No one could guarantee the safety of our men, so we had to stop," reports an ENI source in Tripoli.

For the past month, Libya,

Italy caught between Libya, Tunisia

Tunisia, and Italy have been engaged in a combination of saber rattling and diplomatic haggling. So far there has been agreement only on the fact that the situation is potentially explosive.

The Libyans last month allowed word to seep out that they were buying 10 French missile launching frigates at a total cost of \$800m.

Tunisia restated its position in a flurry of diplomatic notes to Italy and to Libya and a trip by foreign minister Habib Shattay to Tripoli in a vain attempt to solve the problem.

Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba called Libyan leader Muammer Gaddafi last week, denying that the situation was serious, but that conflict should be avoided between the two bordering "brotherly" nations.

A Tunisian spokesman in Rome said "Tunisia will use very peaceful means before resorting to force," but didn't exclude use of force.

The story has made Italian of-

ficials nervous. The country receives its oil supply from Libya and exports over \$600 billion in goods and services to its former colony. At the same time, ENI is involved in various oil exploration ventures in the Tunisian Sahara and offshore Tunisia. An ENI subsidiary, AGIP, holds 20 per cent of another offshore concession in the Gulf of Gabes. It also has an accord for putting the offshore Isis field, 200 kilometres east of Sfax near the Kerkennah Islands into production.

A spokesman for ENI in Rome denied reports that Libya had threatened to nationalize ENI's big oil operations in Libya if the ENI subsidiary doesn't go ahead with the drilling. "There were no threats of this type," but he said the Libyans were exerting utmost pressure.

"We are now caught in the middle," the ENI spokesman said. "It is a matter between Libya and Tunisia."

The maintenance of the Scarabeo IV is costing ENI more than \$100,000 daily — meaning that already \$4.5m. have gone down the drain, adding to the company's losses of over \$100m.

The powerful Italian unions have now jumped into the picture. After a round of talks in Tripoli last week, at the invitation of Libya, a union delegation flew to Tunis and appealed for an international solution to the conflict. But they also pressed the Italian government for firmer action in the dispute.

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Holding Labour together

THE PERSONAL tragedy entailed in the dramatic decision of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin to resign as head of the Labour Party's Knesset list is today overshadowed by the fact that it has forced the Labour Party to face a trauma it sought to avoid since 1969. Since Prime Minister Eshkol's death in that year the country's ruling party has tried its utmost to avoid an internal confrontation on the issue of its leadership succession.

In that year Mrs. Meir was brought in as a stop-gap solution by the Mapai old guard to prevent a disastrous showdown between Rabin's Moshe Dayan and Abba Eban's Yigal Allon. Mrs. Meir's choice proved to be unexpectedly successful but by the time of her resignation in 1974 the Mapai wing of the party had to all intents and purposes disappeared without having ensured a clear line of succession among its middle echelon leaders.

The election of Mr. Rabin in 1974 was a fluke in the disoriented situation following the Yom Kippur War and Mrs. Meir's resignation. In the ensuing three years Mr. Rabin failed to establish his position as the unchallenged leader of the party. His narrow win over Mr. Peres at the party convention in February was more a reflection of vestiges of deep-seated suspicion and fear of a Peres candidacy than a vote of confidence in his own leadership.

Mr. Peres would now seem to be the only viable candidate to lead the troubled party in the most perilous electoral campaign of its 29-year rule. The saving grace of this dramatic situation, from the point of view of the country and its nerves, is that all the actions required for shifting gears within the Labour Party must be taken today and tomorrow thus eliminating the slow unfolding of events which usually inform such political dramas.

Mr. Peres is already faced with the first test of his leadership: to maintain party unity into the elections. The next few weeks will determine whether he can also infuse a demoralised party with the sense of enthusiasm and determination essential for keeping its losses on May 17 to a minimum.

A package deal whereby Mr. Allon will become Minister of Defence and Mr. Eban Foreign Minister if Labour forms the next government would seem to be sufficiently anchored in the political realities of the party to guarantee the necessary modicum of unity. The main problem with such an internal solution is the possibility, given the personalities and political positions of the three men, that it could also perpetuate the disharmony among the leading three ministers which plagued the Rabin Cabinet during its three years.

While Abba Eban's defection from Labour may well be prevented by such a deal with Mr. Allon and by according a ministerial position to Mr. Galili who was defeated for a place on Labour's Knesset list by a Central Committee vote last Thursday, the problem of keeping Mapam in the Labour Alignment is more complex. Mapam's leader, Mr. Talmi, not to mention its more ideological and emotional second rank representatives, has gone on record as regarding a Peres premiership "unacceptable." Mapam's dilemma is that if it leaves the Alignment in pique over Mr. Peres' selection it is knowingly courting the possibility that the Likud may outstrip Labour in the elections and be in a position to have Mr. Begin invited to form a government.

Fear of a Begin premiership may well prove to be the best antidote for Mapam's fear of a Labour Alignment headed by Mr. Peres.

Peres and the Labour doves

By SHALOM COHEN

THE PRIME MINISTER'S sudden resignation has again brought to the fore the strong feelings that his slated successor, Mr. Peres, arouses among some sectors of the Labour Party and the Alignment.

It is probably the case that those who voted for Mr. Peres at the recent Labour Party convention did not harbour strong feelings against Rabin, but the same thing was not true in reverse. Given the deep-seated and long-standing animosity towards Peres amongst some Labour stalwarts, it is all the more remarkable that his popularity should nevertheless have grown to put him at the point where he stands today.

Some dislike his posture as a "technocrat" or pragmatist, which for his detractors means an "absence of ideology." They recall his slogan some years ago — "a car for every worker" — which came, of course, before the disappearance of parking space. They also dislike his smooth ways, glibness and the irregular way he rose in the party — on Ben-Gurion's coattails. But for the newer generation, these old scores are non-existent — witness his support at the party convention.

Yet on one key point even his old adversaries in the Party might have second thoughts and conclude that it is better to come to terms with what is more or less an accomplished fact. The reference is to those "doves" in the party who have opposed Peres as a "hawk."

They have contended that territorial concessions on the West Bank are inevitable and, bolstered by the demographic argument, even desirable. Raising public expectations to the contrary is destructive, they believe.

Now if the doves are right then Peres as Prime Minister will find himself in a position on the question of territories no different than, say, Rabin.

And if, as the doves maintain, territorial compromise is inevitable, who better than a hawk to carry it out? It was precisely for this reason that some argued that this "historic" role would be reserved for Mr. Dayan.

Mr. Peres has espoused a "functional" solution for the West Bank, which means not giving it up but also not annexation, a solution advocated by Dayan. Would he try to persuade the U.S. of this idea, as Prime Minister? Certainly such an attempt would be no reason for doves to squirm.

If, as expected, Mr. Peres is joined at the top by Yigal Allon and Abba Eban who think differently about the West Bank, this would affect Peres' posture. But in any case all such speculations will have to await the result of the May polls and the kind of coalition that is established afterwards.

What appears already clear however, is that the dove-hawk division in the Labour Party, however real or apparent it was and is, has now become completely blurred.

POSTSCRIPTS

THE wild-cat strike may be described as Israel's eleventh plague, as killing as all the ten that befall Egypt. It hardly seems to be the subject for a humorist, but Ephraim Kishon has dealt with it in his own inimitable fashion.

He has suggested an amendment to the laws of the country which runs as follows:

CRIMINAL LAW ACT (Offences Against the Public Order) 1975, AMENDMENT 1977, SECTION 68 (d)

Any citizen who, alone or conjointly with others, shall be charged with obscuring harm, whether material or moral, affecting individual persons and/or the public at large; disturbing the public order with malice aforethought, and knowingly bringing suffering upon others; unlawfully causing damage to the national interest — particularly when said offences be committed in times of emergency or crisis, in disregard of trade union regulations, and in

THE USE in Israel of Arab labour from the West Bank and Gaza evokes different and opposing reactions. Some think that, on the whole, it has done more harm than good.

A noted American scholar in the field of linguistics, Noam Chomsky, foresees dismal prospects, in a letter to the "New York Review of Books" (March 17): "The 'pass system' and its consequences," he says, "will hardly be avoidable if the occupation continues, and with it, reliance on cheap labour imported from the occupied areas."

One cannot help wondering whether, if the reverse had occurred and Arabs had been denied access to the Israeli labour market, Professor Chomsky might not with equal fervour have criticized that too.

"Israeli" — his letter could reasonably have said — "suffers a labour shortage. There are jobless Arabs in the adjoining Jordan. The one justification for the political occupation is the abolition of economic barriers. But chauvinistic and racistist counsels prevailed. The old slogan 'Jewish labour only' has been resuscitated..."

THE FREE labour market that was instituted is not contingent on a continued military occupation. It could bridge frontiers too, as happens in the European Common Market. Indeed there have been (according to sources in the Labour Ministry) discreet offers from across the Jordan to supply workers for employment in Israel — offers which the Israeli authorities tactfully rejected.

The most beneficial result of this free market has been a gradual reduction in the gap between wages in Israel and the areas. In 1968 the average salary of Israelis was IL23.80 a day. Arab workers from the territories got IL10.30 a day.

By 1976 the average for Israelis (including Israeli Arabs) was IL28.50, and for Arabs from the areas (those that got their jobs through the labour exchange) IL23.40. During that period Arab earnings had risen from 42.8 per cent of Israeli earnings to 60.5 per cent.

Inside the occupied areas, wages were initially lower still. The average in 1968 was IL16.70 a day — half the pay gained by the commuters, and less than a quarter of Israeli wages. In 1976/7 earnings were up to IL26.30, which was almost three-quarters of the commuters' pay at the time, and 46 per cent of Israeli wages.

These calculations do not take account of the much lower incomes that had prevailed before the Israeli occupation. Nor do they reflect the fact that more and more people are earning a living. Before the occupation, unemployment was rife; but proper statistics are not available for comparison.

Between the years 1968 and 1976, the proportion of adult Arabs in the labour force rose from 29.5 to 34.9 per cent (of a population which has itself increased by 30 per cent); and the proportion of that labour force in gainful employment went up from 89.9 to 99 per cent.

The number earning an income by the work of their hands swelled during the seven fat years (1968 to 1975) by 60 per cent, or by 77,300 persons. There is less unemployment in the areas today than in Israel.

THE REASON why this constructive-sounding process nevertheless makes many people feel uneasy is that the Arabs working in Israel are concentrated in low-skill occupations. The wage for the job is the same, whether the task is performed by Jew or Arab; but most Arabs do menial tasks than Jews. That fact is reflected in the com-

despite of criminal law acts applicable to all citizens and who, in addition, flouts the express orders of the relevant judicial bodies; and/or defies the injunctions of the lawful authorities, in that he brings normal life to a standstill, creates administrative confusion and causes grievous loss of national assets in time of war — such citizen shall be awarded a salary raise of 5 (five) per cent or over, according as the court sees fit.

(By arrangement with "Ma'ariv")

PENFRIENDS
ANNABELLE WARNER (28), of Flat 2, 79-81 Helen Street, Lane Cove, N.S.W., Australia, is a buyer for a toy whose company who is planning to visit Israel next year on a trip home to England and would like to correspond with Israelis between the ages of 20 and 35. Her hobbies are music, horse riding, archaeology and skiing.

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MIGRANT LABOUR: A SOCIAL CHALLENGE

This year sees the completion of a decade, during which one-third of the Arab labour force in the administered territories has been commuting across the "green line" to work in Israel. DAVID KRIVINE assesses results, and the conflicts that migrant labour system poses both Israel and the Arabs.

parative wage statistics. And when job divisions correspond to ethnic divisions, it is difficult to avoid a suspicion that the people on the bottom rung of the economic ladder are there because they belong to the disadvantaged national group.

The situation is made worse by the fact that many Arabs evade the regulations, even though the purpose of these controls is precisely to prevent discrimination. At the peak (in 1974), 68,700 people from the territories worked in Israel, and 34,000 of them, or one-third, "were irregular," or "black labour" (to use the popular phrase) — who were not engaged through the labour exchange.

Not all were underpaid. The year 1974 was a period of over-full employment, and job-seekers could impose their own terms. Some wanted 5 per cent more in cash, and to hell with the fringe benefits. Small employers often found that a profitable arrangement, though illegal.

But there were other, weaker elements, including women workers and juveniles, who took meekly what they were given. They responded to the local Arab rule or contact-man, instead of going through the official channels, and were paid less than union wages.

The Central Bureau of Statistics gives the average wage in 1976 as IL43.40 a day. If those who went through the labour exchange made IL38.40 (as Labour Ministry statistics indicate), then the "black workers" must have earned a meagre IL24.30, or a little more than twenty-five per cent of salaries earned by Israelis. This figure, moreover, is less than the average wage prevailing inside the territories themselves.

THE QUESTION is whether a system which can be abused should be abolished.

First of all, is its abolition physically possible? It came into existence of its own accord. The authorities did not encourage the inflow of Arab labour; they merely tried to regulate it. It presented a security problem; it threatened "deproletarianise" the Jewish workers. Golda Meir was against it, as was Sapir, and so was Allon (then Labour Minister). In 1972 the Government fixed a ceiling of 40,000 workers. More poured in just the same.

The administration did manage to prevent the labourers from settling inside the Israeli border, next to their workplaces. They have to go back home every night — and 90 per cent of them comply. Of the rest, some have permits to stay, if there are special reasons (such as the need to work a second or third shift). Some stay without a permit.

The merit of the present system is that earnings (they totalled IL700m. for labour-exchange workers alone last year) are funnelled back to the territories, since people tend to spend their money where they live. The consequent accumulation of purchasing-power in the territories activates local employment opportunities.

This process is visible in the steady mushrooming of wages. When a man could earn only half his Israeli salary in the territories, it was worth his while to commute each day. Now that he can earn right there in his own home town, three-quarters of what the Israelis

offer, he will think twice before taking off.

The number of migrant workers has in fact declined from 69,000 in 1974 to 64,000 in 1976. Incidentally, the number of organised wage-earners has risen from 42,800 to 46,500; so the number of "black" workers must have dropped more steeply — from 26,000 to 17,500.

The cause is not just the recent decrease in employment opportunities in Israel, though that is an important factor (especially in building). But demand is falling slightly even for those jobs that are available. The shortage is felt particularly in agriculture, where most of the irregular workers had infiltrated. One Israeli farmer has stopped growing strawberries on his 80-dunam holding, and is shifting to crops that require less hand-labour.

In addition to earning money, the Arabs are acquiring skills — and not just at the workplace. Before the Israeli occupation there were no facilities for adult training, and only three vocational schools for juveniles. Today 35 vocational training centres dot the territories, and one-tenth of the entire labour force has been through its instruction courses.

THESE several factors — full employment in Israel, union wages in Israel, enforced by the authorities (at least for labour-exchange workers); and the promotion of technical training — have an influence which percolates slowly through the economy of the territories.

First of all, the Arabs still employed in Israel are working less in building and agriculture, more in the manufacturing sector. True, they are not found in the sophisticated electronic and science-based industries. But in branches like textile and food-processing (which are admittedly less well paid), they attain much the same occupational spread — outside the field of management — as their Israeli colleagues.

Second, they qualify increasingly for high-salary jobs in the neighbouring Arab countries, whose artificial prosperity, fed by petro-dollars is well-known. Some 16,000 took this opportunity in 1976.

Third and most important, the overflow into Israel of surplus manpower, amounting to one-third of the labour force, has for the first time in Arab history made human labour a valuable commodity.

Unemployment does not exist and, what is more, the familiar practice of over-manning (using two or three men to do the work of one) is disappearing also. Deprived at last of the traditional abundance of low-cost hirelings, Arab farmers are beginning to mechanize; which helps them to pay the higher emoluments that the shortage of job-seekers makes necessary.

The rise in living standards is palpable. Three-quarters of the town-dwelling families in the West Bank now have an electric refrigerator, half have an electric washing-machine, and 65 per cent have a TV set. In four years (from 1972 to 1976) ownership of refrigerators among town-dwellers in the Gaza Strip shot up from 12 to 44 per cent. TV sets from 14.5 to 44 per cent likewise, and gas or electrical cooking stoves from 18.5 per cent in 1974 to 50 per cent two years later.

The gross national product of the territories rose 34-fold between 1972 and 1976. It could have risen still, had there been a greater interest in industrial investment. Loan money is available. Shlomo Amir, of the Labour Ministry, Israel's Number One expert on employment in the administered areas, "only we find enough seekers." Are entrepreneurs are lacking. The reasons enough, politics? Only the chief of them.

BUT THE FUTURE of the Arab in their own backyard, says "Israel does not want to incur the amount of migrant labour. The flow has passed its peak, and is stabilised at its present level of 60,000-65,000." Those who fear Jews may stop performing a toll should take note that this amounts to no more than 5 per cent of the Israeli labour force.

What if the demand for work outside the territories increases? We must reduce the job of "Israel" Amir answers unflinchingly. "First priority in Israel is for workers in the territories. That has been our policy since the beginning."

But is it desirable to have Arab migrant labour in Israel? There are two objections. One is valid, the other is not. The valid objection is that the country does not want to be dependent on a foreign ethnic group for low-grade jobs that nobody wants to do.

The other less persuasive objection is that Arabs ought not to be given jobs at all. Jews should do them, plus at most those who live in Israel.

This view is not tenable. It is that Chomsky has got the calculations wrong. The distance from the sea to the Jordan is barely 50 miles, as the crow flies. It is inadmissible that Arabs should be hungry at one end of this strip, while jobs go unfilled in the other.

The solution is that Arabs be allowed to go on commuting for work in Israel if they wish, and that the time to dwell in the territories be made to steer them away from the low-class occupation of the hewing-of-wood-and-draw-water activities, to which they still currently relegated.

No job area should be exclusively manned by Arabs. Nor should a situation be allowed that Jews drive a cab or a lorry, Arabs do the loading and unloading (this unattractive business of loading and unloading is found mainly in Jerusalem, because of its large Arab population).

It is perfectly acceptable to Arab porters, navvies, as petrol-station attendants, building's misters, provided Jews side by side with them in the tasks, provided also that made for them higher up on the occupational ladder.

This presents a challenge not to Mr. Amir's colleagues in Labour Ministry and to the Histadrut — but to the Arabs themselves through their own representative institutions, which should keep whole subject under continuous review.

READERS' LETTERS

ROSEGARDEN CITY AND MA'ALOT

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I read with great interest your article on Steirerthimer (March 17). What he has achieved with his "Company" truly deserves admiration. It is therefore all the more disappointing to read about his plans for Rosegarden City and find a complete lack of sympathy with our arguments, notwithstanding all our talks with him.

To compare Mr. Steirerthimer to Ben-Gurion or Allon is inaccurate and blurs the issue. Ben-Gurion retired to Sde Boker — a kibbutz which already existed. Allon, as you wrote, "never gave up his hope of bringing life" to existing places in the Dead Sea region. But Mr. Steirerthimer is his plan to build his new city, is completely neglecting the settlements which already exist in the Galilee and his plans pose a direct threat to their future development.

The social implications of building a luxury village next door to Ma'alot need not be spelled out. His village would flourish at the direct expense

not only of Ma'alot, but of all other settlements in the Western Galilee. Mr. Wertheimer talks about one-family houses, lawns, trees and sophisticated industry — all admirable ideas. And these are the exact plans we are giving effect to in Ma'alot. Our villa project, situated in one of the most beautiful areas in the country, has just begun, with many outside people expressing interest in it. We have some of the most advanced electronics industry in the country, with plans for new industry to come.

Let Mr. Wertheimer open a branch of Icar in Ma'alot. Let him and his workers participate in our villa project so that everyone can prosper. But to set up a new settlement is the last thing the Galilee needs, when there are so many settlements in existence which need people with Mr. Wertheimer's abilities and inventiveness. It is foolish to work at cross purposes when, basically, we have the same aims — populating the Galilee.

MICHAEL YOUNGER WOOD
Ma'alot.

THE HISTORY OF BIKUR HOLIM

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I read with interest your article of March 23 about Bikur Holim Hospital.

I remember clearly the day when Mr. Farhatine of the Bikur Holim Hospital came to Berlin in 1935 to ask my father, Professor L.F. Meyer, to found the children's ward. He opened this ward in Jerusalem in 1936 and proposed many innovations that were of great use.

ILSE YALLOM
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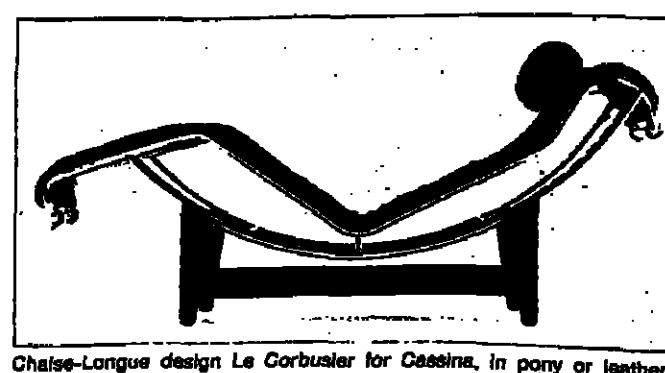
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